# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-92-136
Wednesday
15 July 1992

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## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-92-138* *15 July 1992*

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### Iraq

Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn has said Iraq will not participate in the UN Border Demarcation Committee session in New York on 15-24 July. In a letter to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali which was broadcast on Baghdad radio, the minister said Iraq's opinion was "not being heard" in the Committee, and that there was a "tendentious decision to harm Iraq interests and deny Iraq's historical rights by the states that planned the Committee's work."

### Palestinian Affairs

Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to PLO Chairman 'Arafat, described new Israeli Prime Minister Rabin's speech to the Knesset as "mere words" and "an effort to pull the wool over our eyes." In a statement to the Tunis press agency TAP, Abu-Sharif said he welcomed the upcoming Middle East tour by Secretary of State James Baker, expressing the hope that Baker would convince the new Israeli administration of "the need to withdraw its forces" from territory occupied since 1967. In other reaction to the Rabin speech, an editorial in Jerusalem's AL-NAHAR said the new prime minister "showed a flexibility in positions that previous Israeli governments lacked for a long time."

### Israel

Incoming Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin said he is sure that Washington "will be more generous" with Tel Aviv because of the new government, Jerusalem International reported. Meanwhile Prime Minister Rabin met with Foreign Minister Peres to discuss their upcoming talks with Secretary of State Baker, who is due in Israel next week. In other news, IDF troops have completely surrounded al-Najah University in Nablus, where approximately 2,500 Palestinians have barricaded themselves within the university's confines. The unrest began after border troops captured a youth near the university who was suspected of terrorist activities. "Large" numbers of IDF troops arrived on the scene and ordered all the students to come out of the university to be searched. The army alleges that a number of wanted men entered the university building while student union elections were taking place. An IDF general denied there was a blockade on the university and said troops had refrained from entering the campus. The IDF has clamped a curfew on Nablus.

### Pakistan

Islamabad Radio reported that on 12 July communal violence in Peshawar began following a Muharram mourning procession. AFP reported that the Army was called in to quell the rioting, which has lasted for three days, and the death toll has risen to 12. Officials report that the arrival of the Army has helped bring the situation back to normal. Islamabad Radio reported that a high-level meeting was convened on the situation under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif on 14 July.

### Sudan

The Sudanese Armed Forces and the Popular Defense Forces recaptured Torit in Equatoria State on 13 July, SUNA reported. The troops seized SPLA leader John Garang's headquarters in Torit, according to the news agency. Revolution Command Council Chairman al-Bashir announced the liberation to "joyous" citizens in Khartoum, who reportedly took to the streets in celebration.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Urges World Intervention in Bosnia

*NC0907202692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1546 GMT 9 Jul 92*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (MENA)—The Arab League urged all forces of the world to move more actively to force the Serbs to respect the principles and provisions of international legitimacy and to find a radical solution to the Serbian conspiracy—which is occurring within the world's sight and hearing—against the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

A statement issued by the Arab League General Secretariat hailed the resolution passed by the seven industrialized nations in Munich yesterday as a step toward progress. The statement demanded that this resolution be followed by more stringent and decisive measures to halt this conspiracy that aims to destroy the people of Bosnia- Hercegovina and partition their land.

The statement also urged the international community and international and regional organizations to apply the provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Declaration establishing the basis for European security and preserving human rights.

In its statement, the Arab League General Secretariat denounced the deteriorating situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina as a result of Serbian aggression against Muslim and Christian people in an unprecedented massacre and ethnic strife that have killed or displaced thousands of people and burned down their homes.

### Damascus Conference Discusses Water Resources

*LD0907215992 Rabat MAP in English 1314 GMT 9 Jul 92*

[Text] Damascus, July 9 (MAP)—Water resources problems in the Arab world were at the core of the proceedings of the 21st session of the General Assembly of the Arab Center for Studies on Arid and Desert Zones, 'ACSAD.' The meeting wound up here Thursday.

Participants in the event underlined the emergency of holding a meeting of Arab agriculture ministers to debate the serious deficit in water resources.

The deficit will reach 160 to 260 billion cubic meters by the year 2030, said the director of the 'ACSAD' Water Resources Department, Jean Khouri.

The plan adopted during the 'ACSAD' 21st session aims at applying the Arab water security project, based on the preservation of balance of water supply and demand, said Khouri underlining the necessity of rationalizing the use and developing water resources, increasing the available resources in some areas of the Arab world, desalination and the protection of fresh water resources.

Delegations from all Arab countries except Tunisia and Sudan took part in the three-day session of the Damascus-based ACSAD.

## Islamic Affairs

### ICO Supports Security Council Meeting on Bosnia

*LD1207193792 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Jeddah, 12 Jul (SPA)—An Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) press statement released today reads that ICO Secretary General Dr. Hamid al-Ghabid directed the ICO mission at the UN Headquarters in New York to support the Bosnian Government's request to convene an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the recent developments in the republic.

The statement notes that the directives of the ICO secretary general comes within the framework of the efforts of the ICO to arrive at measures to ensure protection for the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina, its territory, and sovereignty from Serbian aggression.

### ICO's al-Ghabid Meets With Tunisia's Houidi

*LD0707011192 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1655 GMT 6 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 6 Jul (SPA)—Hamid al-Ghabid, the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] secretary general, met today in Jeddah with Fathi Houidi, Tunisian secretary of state for information and head of the Tunisian delegation to the first meeting of the follow-up committee stemming from the second ICO information ministers meeting. [passage omitted]

The secretary of state expressed Tunisia's readiness to exert more effort in the sphere of Islamic joint action to promote Islamic information to fully perform its role in defending the just Islamic causes and to consolidate cooperation between the member countries. [passage omitted]

## Palestinian Affairs

### Abu-Sharif Comments on Rabin Speech, Baker Tour

*LD1407133192 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1145 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Tunis, 14 Jul (TAP)—Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat, described the content of new Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's speech, as "mere words and an effort to pull the wool over our eyes."

In a statement to TAP yesterday evening, Abu-Sharif said "the important thing is adherence to the UN resolutions which pertain to the Middle East and call for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories." [passage omitted]

Bassam Abu-Sharif welcomed, however, the tour U.S. Secretary of State James Baker will undertake to the Middle East next week. Abu-Sharif expressed hope that this tour will contribute toward convincing the new

Israeli Government of the need to withdraw its forces from the Arab territory occupied since 1967.

[Words indistinct] will provide all the necessary assistance to Mr. Baker to make his mission successful. We believe the mission is based on President George Bush's announcement last year that the United States considers all settlements which Israel has set up on the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories to be illegal, including those settlements which Israel has established in East Jerusalem.

Abu-Sharif expressed his belief that the U.S. secretary of state "has produced effective contributions for pushing forward the peace process in the Middle East." He added: "We hope this continues."

President 'Arafat's adviser concluded by saying that the Palestinian people will not halt their resistance to the occupation until it ceases to exist.

On another level, Bassam Abu-Sharif affirmed in his statement that the Palestinian leadership will convene a meeting on 20 July to discuss the development of the political situation in the occupied territories and the Middle East.

Abu-Sharif pointed out that "one of the principal ideas currently under discussion is the holding of legislative elections in the occupied territories under the supervision of well-known international figures, in order to elect 180 members to complete the membership of the Palestinian National Council to represent all groupings of the Palestinian people."

Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to president 'Arafat, stated that the 180 members who will be elected will form a legislative council, and will "subsequently appoint 20 members to administer the affairs of the occupied territories during the transition period."

TAP has learned from an informed Palestinian source that Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat last night met with several members of the Palestinian leadership in Tunis to discuss with them the recent developments in the Palestinian arena.

## PLO Spokesman Rejects Rabin Remarks on Jerusalem

*NC1407161492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1429 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Tunis, 14 Jul (MENA)—PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman has said that what the Middle East peace process needs first is a declaration by the new Israeli Government led by Yitzhaq Rabin that it is clearly committed to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to the principle of exchanging land for peace. What should follow, he added, is seriousness about the peace negotiations that began in Madrid, but failed to achieve any progress because the previous Israeli Government under Yitzhaq Shamir rejected peace and refused to acknowledge the international resolutions leading to peace. 'Abd-al-Rahman said these principles are the key to the peace process.

The PLO spokesman said the PLO rejects Rabin's remarks about Jerusalem and the settlements. This Israeli position, he said, conflicts with the interests of the Palestinian people and violates the resolutions of international legitimacy, on the basis of which the PLO agreed to participate in the peace process.

'Abd-al-Rahman said the security to which Rabin referred can only be achieved through a peace settlement that restores the Palestinian people's rights and ensures Israel's withdrawal from all Arab and Palestinian territory it now occupies. The Palestinian official concluded his statement by saying that Israeli's security cannot be achieved until Palestinian national rights are fulfilled, asserting that "incomplete peace amounts to incomplete security."

## Paper Notes 'Positive Points' in Rabin Speech

*TA1407191392 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Jul 92 pp 1, 11*

[Editorial: "What Rabin Did Not Mention in His Speech"]

[Text] Light must be shed on the speech by Yitzhaq Rabin, the new Israeli prime minister, in the Knesset yesterday. The speech contained numerous positive points. Rabin expressed his readiness to reach regional settlements with the neighboring Arab states, to break the deadlock in the peace process, and to grant the Palestinian people autonomy for an interim period that would be followed by final negotiations for settling the Palestinian problem. The speech, however, cannot be considered a fundamental change in the Israeli position on the Arabs and the Palestinians.

Undoubtedly Rabin spoke in a different language from that which our Palestinian people heard during Shamir's tenure for the past eight years—a language that shows understanding of the possible and impossible, a language that gives the region's peoples, including the Israeli people, the hope of coexistence and mutual respect among the region's states. The scenario presented by Rabin is the best means for advancing the peace process and for building confidence among the various parties in the region. It may open the doors to historical settlements, based on the principle of land for peace.

Although Rabin's speech in the Knesset yesterday has still not been thoroughly studied by Palestinians and Arabs, there is no doubt that the parties will respond positively to Rabin's plans if his words are translated into into deeds and do not just "tickle" the international and Arab media in order to portray Rabin as a moderate prime minister who is willing to give up the occupied territories in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, and Lebanon.

Rabin was clear in saying that his government's priorities will be to address the domestic situation and the economic problems. He is aware of the sharp division within Israeli society over the future of the occupied

territories. He will therefore postpone dealing with that issue, which could lead to his government's collapse.

If Rabin's speech eased the Israeli people's apprehensions about their security and deterrent force, it left many unanswered questions about the steps he will take to emerge from the impasse in which the previous government has placed him, whether regarding the expansion of settlements or the restrictions imposed on the Palestinian people in their daily lives. Regrettably, Rabin had a role in imposing those restrictions when he was defense minister.

There are some skeptics among our people—"and they may be right"—who believe that Rabin's speech may be just lip service to regain U.S. support for Israel and to obtain the loan guarantees. They believe that the speech is aimed at the immigrants who are reassessing their immigration to Israel and those who have not yet left the Soviet Union. Rabin, though, is fully aware that he will not obtain the loan guarantees unless he agrees to freeze settlement activity in the occupied territories clearly and unambiguously. That does not mean only that the Americans will pressure Israel to advance the peace process, but also that the Americans will pressure the Arabs and the Palestinians to make concessions at the negotiating table.

Whatever the case, Rabin's speech showed a flexibility in positions that previous Israeli governments lacked for a long time.

## South Asian Regional Affairs

### SAARC Standing Committee Meeting Ends 7 Jul

*BK0707115492 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Jul 92*

[Text] The standing committee of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] foreign secretaries concluded its three-day meeting in Colombo this afternoon. The committee finalized the agenda for the 11th session of the SAARC council of ministers that will occur tomorrow and on Thursday at the BMICH [Bandaranaike Memorial Institute Conference Hall]. According to Foreign Ministry sources, the independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation submitted its interim report to the foreign secretaries. The report was appreciated by the foreign secretaries who stated their work would greatly benefit the region. Sri Lanka's foreign secretary, Bernard Tillakaratne, presided over the meeting.

## Algeria

### Military Court Continues Trial of FIS Leaders

#### New Witnesses Testify

*LD1407151992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] This morning the Blida Military Court resumed the trial of leaders of the recently banned Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. The proceedings resumed with hearing evidence of new witnesses who are: former prime minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali; National Liberation Front [FLN] Secretary-General Abdelhamid Mehri; and former National Assembly Speaker Abdelaziz Belkhadem. For more details, let us listen to this report sent to us by the radio team at Blida Military Court headquarters:

Sid Ahmed Ghozali, who was the last witness, had to answer an embarrassing question during the last part of the hearing. After some hesitation he stated: The official represents ambition for power. On the one hand, some people clung to power at the expense of national interest; on the other hand, other people exploited the situation in an attempt to gain power through violence; and collusion was noticeable between the two sides. This was the last answer to a question. The court president had insisted on a clear answer to that question. The question was as follows: Between 25 May and 30 June onwards, a loss totalling 78 billion centimes was recorded; more than 80 dead were reported; more than 480 people were injured; and thousands of arrests were recorded. The scenario of violence continued, the last victim of which was the late president Mohamed Boudiaf. Who is responsible?

To start with, Mr. Ghozali replied by saying that his analysis of the situation was officially recorded in the program of his government. However the court president interrupted him by saying: We would like to listen to it.

Mr. Ghozali also talked about his meeting with Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj on 7 June before Friday prayers. In the beginning of his answer, Mr. Ghozali forgot the exact date of his appointment as prime minister and the date of the meeting with the FIS leadership. He was reminded by the court president, who stated the following: The date of your appointment was 5 June and the date of the meeting was 7 June at 1000 hours. During the meeting an end to the strike was announced.

Mr. Ghozali was asked about the commitment. He said: I did not express any commitment and I did not meet with Abassi Madani to negotiate. However, I told him frankly that I did not join the government to destroy the FIS or to dissolve it or to detain Algerians. But, continued defiance of the law, the use of violence, and the creation of division between Algerians as Muslims and nonbelievers would inevitably lead to the destruction of the FIS.

The resigning prime minister indicated that he had informed Madani and Belhadj that the president of the republic had agreed to hold early presidential elections.

The same information was also confirmed by Abdelaziz Belkhadem during his statement. He was the second person to give evidence after Abdelhamid Mehri.

Mr. Belkhadem stated that he had carried out many mediation contacts between the Presidency and the FIS leaders between 3-4 June. Each time he recorded the demands of the FIS and submitted them to the president. At many meetings with the president, among those attending these meetings were former secretary-general of the Presidency Larbi Belkheir and Defense Minister Khaled Nezzar.

The demands stressed the need for holding early presidential elections. The president showed flexibility in the matter because he told me, Mr. Belkhadem went on, that the issue was not a matter of clinging to power but it will take place at the appropriate time.

The witness stated that the then president of the republic, Chadli Bendjedid, asked him to inform the FIS leaders of his agreement to hold early presidential elections. However, he did not name a date for these elections. For his part, Abassi Madani insisted on fixing a date for the elections.

According to Mr Belkhadem's testimony, it was agreed to issue a statement which should not be between the president and an opposition party or between the government and a party from the opposition; but between two parties. They requested Abdelhamid Mehri, who had attended some negotiations, to negotiate with Abassi Madani on the drafting formula of the joint statement. This was scheduled to take place during a meeting on 5 June; however, the meeting did not take place because of the serious disturbances that erupted following the night of 3 June.

Abdelhamid Mehri, who was the first of the witnesses to be called, confirmed that he was in fact entrusted by the president to attend the contacts agreed between Abdelaziz Belkhadem and Abassi Madani on 3 and 4 June. The decision to entrust him with this mission falls within the logic that contacts should take place with the government and not with the presidency, as was stated in Abassi Madani's demands.

On this basis, meetings with Abassi Madani used to take the form of a meeting between two parties: the FLN and the FIS.

On the question of losses, Mr. Mehri stated that during his meeting with Abassi Madani he insisted on issuing the statement agreed by the two parties before the conclusion of the political agreement on FIS demands. Mr. Mehri added that Abassi Madani used to think otherwise.

My persistent calls for calming the situation stemmed from the fear of the development of events. In fact, Mr.

Mehri stated, matters did develop and the agreement on the call for calm was not concluded.

### Prosecutor Urges Life Imprisonment

*LD1407191992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Report by Mohamed Chellouch]

[Excerpt] At this instant when I am speaking to you, the presiding judge of the Blida Military Court has ordered that the demands of the military prosecution be conveyed to the accused leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. These demands are: Life imprisonment for Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, and sentences ranging from 15 to 20 years in jail for the rest of the accused. The court session was then adjourned to be resumed directly after the conveying.

The trial of the FIS leaders resumed this evening and was devoted to hearing the final speech of the military prosecutor, in the absence of the accused and the defense. Details of the session come to you from the radio mission and Mohamed Chellouch is on the line:

[Chellouch] A short while ago, the military prosecutor ended reading out the minutes of his demands, in which he made the following demands: life imprisonment for Abassi Madani; life imprisonment for Ali Belhadj, together with stripping him of his civic rights; 20 years in jail with no parole for Kamel Guemmazi and Ali Dj.ddi, together with stripping them of their civic rights; 15 years in jail with no parole for Boukhabkham, Chigara, and Abdelkader Omar.

Pending the verdict of the presiding judge, the question remaining, which has remained throughout this trial, is: Who is responsible for what happened in June 1991? This is an essential question which was posed by the presiding judge to many witnesses, especially the political figures who were summoned to give their testimonies. [passage omitted]

### Hamas Leader Warns Against 'Excesses'

*PM1407140492 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 8-14 Jul 92 pp 25-27*

[Interview with Cheikh Mahfoud Nahnah, leader of the Algerian Islamic Society Movement (Hamas), by Salah-al-Din al-Jurshi in Mecca "three weeks before Boudiaf's assassination"]

[Excerpts] [Al-Jurshi] Within the context of your eagerness to encourage national reconciliation, what is your opinion of the constant violent operations in Algeria? Will they hamper reconciliation efforts?

[Nahnah] Violence is a sign of weakness. Authorities that have used violence and expulsion by force of law and force of arms in past years have been weak. The violence used by some parties which do not understand international and local balances of power, do not know their boundaries, and do not know the true essence and objectives of Islam is a method of weakness. If I think that anyone who does not accept my view must be killed, then this kind of Islam would inevitably become a frightening bugbear that terrifies others. It is naive and a misunderstanding, and its representation of Islam is uncomfortable. So violence from any source is condemned. It reflects a lack of cultural awareness among those who practice it, regardless of their motives and their political, religious, and cultural affiliation. This, because violence is practiced only by those whose patriotism, religiousness, and mentality are suspect. [passage omitted]

[Al-Jurshi] If an Islamic state had been set up in Algeria after the recent elections, would you have expected its establishment to produce good results?

[Nahnah] Who cannot expect good from the establishment of an Islamic state? Every Muslim and every sincere patriot is bound to expect good from its establishment. But people must beware of practices which might cause excesses with regard to the understanding of Islam. Many of these excesses have occurred in our country and other countries. The worst or most important of these excesses is to declare that people are sinful and infidel—which results in other legal rulings. So we say that it is desirable to expect good from the establishment of an Islamic state, as has happened in Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

[Al-Jurshi] What is your opinion of the general situation in Algeria?

[Nahnah] Since the political crisis the situation in Algeria has been characterized by exacerbation and political deadlock. If anyone looks at the situation, he will see that it is the result of an autocratic policy which worked to absorb capabilities by removing influential Islamic, economic, political, and intellectual figures for nearly 30 years—which ultimately led to the problem of the rejection of rotation in power. The final outcome was the the refusal to accept the results of the December 1991 elections, which reflected a number of meanings: First, the Algerian people's wish to return to their religion by any means. Second, the almost absolute support for one of the Islamic movement's groups. Third, a mass message addressed to the Algerian authorities, reflecting the desire for a radical change in program, thinking, method, and people.

On the other hand, we believe that the deteriorating economic situation, which imposed deprivation on the people, high prices, rising inflation, and increasing unemployment, could be a significant factor for rejection. [passage omitted]

## Egypt

### PLO's Abu-Mazin Arrives in Cairo 14 Jul

*NC1407194892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1922 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jul (MENA)—PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, arrived in Cairo this evening from Amman on a visit to Egypt.

Palestinian sources said that during his stay Abu-Mazin will hold talks with Egyptian officials about developments in the region in light of the new Israeli Government.

Abu-Mazin is expected to travel to Moscow after his visit to Cairo to hold talks with ranking Russian officials about the next stage of the peace talks. Russia is one of the two cosponsors of the Middle East peace process.

### German Disarmament Talks Envoy Arrives in Cairo

*NC1507110692 Cairo MENA in English 0958 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Cairo, July 15 (MENA)—The personal envoy of the German Government in the Geneva talks on disarmament and arms limitation arrived here today for a two-day visit to Egypt.

He said upon arrival that his visit comes within the context of a tour of major world capitals like Washington, Tokyo, Beijing, Islamabad, New Delhi, and Tel Aviv to brief their governments on the German Government's view regarding the pressing need for reaching an agreement over a draft project for a chemical arms embargo. Germany is chairing the arms embargo talks.

The German official paid tribute to the Egyptian delegation's role during the Geneva talks last year, adding that the Egyptian delegation showed full cooperation in the formulation of the draft project.

### Rabin Speech to Knesset Draws Reaction

#### Commentary on Israeli 'Time-Wasting'

*NC1407174392 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Ahmad Sha'ban commentary entitled: "Israeli People's Wish For Peace; Will Rabin's Government Make It Reality"]

[Text] It is remarkable that from the start of the election campaign in Israel, the candidates—particularly those from the Labor Party and primarily Yitzhaq Rabin—punctuated their electoral campaigns with calls for peace, for a solution, and for ending the problems facing the entire region, especially the Palestinian problem.

The Israeli electorate has been divided on peace. Some analysts thought the Israeli people would turn their backs on peace, but most expected them to elect those who promised them peace. The latter were correct. Labor came out a clear winner, and other Israeli groups calling for peace and dialogue also consolidated their position, including Meretz. This paved the way for a Labor-led government with the support of nonextremist parties as well as the Communist Party and the Arab Democratic Party, these two having won five parliamentary seats. This showed that the Israelis have opted for peace and for ending the hostilities that have haunted the region since 1948.

Presenting his new government to the Knesset, Rabin reiterated his call for invigorating the peace process. He called on Arab leaders involved in the peace talks to visit Israel, expressing his willingness to visit Arab capitals any time to promote the peace cause. Rabin said wars have their victors and vanquished, but peace has only victors. His phrase indicates a serious bent toward reaching a settlement, which, we believe, must be just and comprehensive and must ensure the restoration of rights to their owners.

As we look into Rabin's Knesset speech, we must say that Israel's positions expressed in this speech and in earlier statements by Rabin during his election campaign, particularly on such issues as security in return for peace and a halt to settlement building or, to be more specific, diverting the cost of building settlements to other purposes, should be accepted by us, the Arabs, as topics to be placed on the talks agenda. These phrases, however, cannot be taken at face value because Rabin places conditions on them. We should remain clear about our goals and avoid being too optimistic, imagining that peace is at hand. Peace would require further effort, wisdom, and diplomacy, and above all a united Arab stand.

As Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said, it is obvious that the Israeli position opens the door for a just settlement. We are faced with an Israeli position that is, by all accounts, new. Despite this position not being exactly harmonious with our demands, it is a far cry from Israel's previous inclination toward time-wasting on procedure. Perhaps in the coming peace talks in Rome we will see the Israelis focus more on key issues and less on issues of formal procedure.

The formation of the Labor-led government shows a popular Israeli wish for peace. It remains to be seen how Rabin's government will translate this wish into constructive stands during the coming talks with the Arabs.

#### Daily Views Rabin Initiative

*NC1507081292 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial headlined Rabin's Initiative and Peace Intentions, AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Yitzhaq Rabin, the new Israeli prime minister, has managed to attract observers' attention with his important speech before the Israeli Knesset and his initiative containing negotiable points, particularly his commitment to

reviving the peace process, refraining from any measures hampering the negotiations, and his call on the Palestinian and Jordanian delegation members to meet with him in Jerusalem for informal talks according to the Palestinian autonomy offer.

At the same time, Rabin warned Palestinians that, should they refuse his plan, the alternative will be an iron fist policy and a large-scale war on what he dubbed terrorism and violence.

The paper asks: Has Rabin, who came to power after the Likud's defeat, made this difficult decision and chosen a positive move in the battle for peace by benefiting from the hardened Likud Party's mistakes of using the time factor and distancing the negotiations from substantial issues, or does this new stage reflect the will of the Israeli voter? The Knesset election results demonstrate the Israeli voter's readiness for a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian issue in return for a commitment to the principle of land for peace.

The paper notes that the sole answer will emerge by following up the next phase of negotiations, which the Arab parties expect to resume in early September.

The paper says that the Cairo-led Arab coordination and Cairo's important meetings and consultations have again confirmed the seriousness with which the Arabs are fighting the battle for peace. Rabin's statement contained positive points that encouraged the U.S. Administration to send Secretary of State James Baker to the region next week to overcome the obstacles to the peace process and led U.S. President Bush to invite Yitzhaq Rabin to meet him in Washington next month.

The paper adds: President Husni Mubarak has called on the Arab nation to arm itself with patience, solidarity, and coordinated stands. He warned that the peace battle is a protracted one but victory will eventually belong to those who can claim they are right and can use the facts to defend their rights.

## King Husayn's Involvement in Iraqi 'Coup' Viewed

*NC1507084692 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 10 Jul 92 p 1*

[Jalal Duwaydar editorial: "And the King Turned Against the Butcher of Baghdad"]

[Text] There are leaders who believe that the world is governed only by interests and that there is no room for principles or values in dealings among states and peoples. This has become all the more apparent following recent events in Iraq.

There were reports recently of a coup attempt against Saddam Husayn, commander of the Mother of All Defeats, which devastated fraternal Iraq, shook the Arab nation and exhausted its wealth and resources. Iraq has accused Jordan of being involved in the coup attempt, thus proving that the world is governed by interests. King Husayn's denial of this accusation—which implies that he has turned against his ally—does not necessarily mean that the Jordanian regime is innocent. The Jordanian regime has a habit of playing tricks; its history and its immoral behavior during the Gulf crisis make it difficult to rule out its involvement in the coup attempt.

King Husayn strongly and firmly supported Saddam Husayn's brutal onslaught aimed at devouring Kuwait with all its wealth and resources. He hoped to take a good share of the spoils. His ambition led him to think about restoring the Hashemite throne in the Hejaz region of Saudi Arabia. In a moment when his intelligence betrayed him, he abandoned the title of "king" and adopted the title "al-sharif." His Hashemites ancestors, who used the title "al- sharif," ruled Najd and Hejaz before their kingdoms collapsed. When Saddam Husayn was defeated and all these dreams and ambitions were lost, it was natural for the effects of defeat and suffering to engulf Jordan, which played a role in involving the Iraqi regime and then setting the trap for it.

If we review the history of the Jordanian regime, we see the likelihood that it participated in the contacts and preparations for the coup attempt against Saddam.

Naturally, the Jordanian regime wanted to please Washington, which thought the time was right to overthrow Saddam, according to a timetable it prepared. Following the failure of the coup attempt, it was not strange that King Husayn hastened to proclaim his innocence in an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST. The king's denial was unconvincing.

King Husayn's turn against Saddam is natural and fully in line with his behavior and principles. It is also fully in line with the ideas of his supporters, who see him as a political genius and an expert in escaping from predicaments. He always adheres to the Machiavellian theory that the end justifies the means, characterized by cunning and deception.

## SLP Leader Shukri Stresses Need for Reform

*NC1507081592 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jul 92 p 4*

[Excerpt] Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party [SLP], stressed to President Mubarak the need for constitutional reform so that the country can enjoy peace, security, and stability. He also asked the state to set an example in respecting the judiciary and the law, because one of the most serious aspects of terrorism is when the state violates the law; fails to adhere to regulations; forges the will of the people; and resorts to police tactics with no restraints on arrests, torture, killings, or terrorizing innocent citizens.

Shukri pointed out that the correct way to combat terrorism is to allow greater freedom and democracy by guaranteeing the right to form parties and publish newspapers. Additional emergency laws will not put an end to terrorism but will only lead to more terrorism. Shukri

clarified that it is most important for governmental terrorism and oppression to disappear. He affirmed that there can be no solution or peace without Islam. When we revert to Islam, peace and security will spread throughout the country.

This speech was delivered during an SLP popular conference, held in the village of Minyat Shintina 'Ayyash in al-Mahallah al-Kubra and attended by a large group of citizens. [passage omitted]

### Muslim Brotherhood's Record on Copts Viewed

*NC1507104692 Cairo SABAH AL-KHAYR in Arabic 9 Jul 92 pp 8-10*

[Article by Islamist writer Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qaddus entitled: "This Is How Tolerant Muslim Brotherhood Is of Copts"]

[Excerpts] The frequent incidents of sectarian strife in my country are tragic. I was horrified to see such incidents reemerging in Dayrut. My sincere condolences go to the families of the victims, Muslims and Christians. Islam has never called for attacks on Copts or their property. I see no justification for such attacks.

I was pained by the deaths of physician Barzi al-Nahhal and shoe merchant Majdi Jirjis and distressed by the brutal attack on three Copts at the railway station: Radi 'Abd-al-Sayyid Shalabi, 'Ayid George, and Fakhri Wahbah.

These incidents were in response to the police killing 'Arafah Darwish, a leader of an Islamic group in the area, and Hani Qutb, a prominent member of al-Jihad Organization. But why were the Copts made to pay for this? Intimidating the Copts is a crime and attacking them is, by any standards, unacceptable.

I sympathize fully with the Christians' anger and fear over current events. The media would be very wrong to portray all the young people who support the Islamic trend as being hostile to non- Muslims. Nothing could be further from the truth. Persisting in circulating such a claim can only cause irreparable damage to our national unity and the country itself.

I can substantiate my argument [that not all religious youth are hostile to Copts] with an obvious example, that of the Muslim Brotherhood's attitude toward Copts. The brotherhood is the oldest and most influential of the Islamic groups and has a large following among religious young men. You can determine the brotherhood's attitude toward Copts by looking at the group's practices and theories, which are in perfect harmony. [passage omitted]

Members of the Muslim Brotherhood have never attacked Copts. The group's record in this is honorable. [passage omitted] When Coptic Pope Shanudah was arrested and dismissed from his post, 'Umar al-Tilmisan, general guide of the Muslim Brotherhood at the time, announced that he was ready to call for his release from the highest minaret in Cairo. [passage omitted]

The brotherhood also denounced attacks on churches, Copts, and their properties. Following the sectarian riots in Imbabah in Cairo, we tried to meet several Coptic leaders to discuss the seriousness of the situation and the trauma it left.

Following the incidents in Dayrut and acting on my beliefs, I visited the area with a delegation of Muslim and Christian journalists and offered condolences to the victims' families. I also received a letter of thanks from the parish priest. [passage omitted]

## Libya

### JANA Editor Hails End of Plutonium Production

*LD1507002592 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Tripoli, 14 July 92, JANA—U.S. President Bush announced that his government would stop producing the plutonium and uranium used in nuclear weapons. Bush gave as reasons his government's wish to combat the spread of nuclear weapons, pointing out that supervision of the export of radioactive substances was no longer adequate to confront the spread of nuclear weapons.

The international affairs editor welcomed this decision [words indistinct] that responds to the Libyan historic proposal regarding solving a number of [word indistinct] issues that threaten the world and deprive its citizens and states of peaceful sleep.

He said that we had already stressed that any measure taken to limit the spread of destructive weapons or components used in their manufacture would undoubtedly be conducive to achieving a climate suitable for the stability and security of all states in the world, particularly the Third World.

The Jamahiriyah had already called for [words indistinct] the world from instruments of death and destruction and the factors that prevent the world from living as one international family in which all efforts are devoted to achieving prosperity and happiness for humanity, away from the danger of destructive weapons and wars. This was what the historic and civilized proposal, which the great Jamahiriyah had submitted to the United Nations last November, had contained.

### Constitutional Union Leader Discusses Issues

*PM1407082492 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jul 92 p 8*

[Interview with Libyan Constitutional Union leader Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Ghalbun by Huda al-Husayni; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] Are you a realistic man?

[Bin-Ghalbun] I am always in step with reality. I am very realistic.

[Al-Husayni] As a realistic person, do you ever seriously see the monarchy returning to Libya?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Yes, that is quite possible. The monarchy in Libya came about by popular demand on the basis of a public referendum, so it was more legitimate and democratic than any of the current republics in the region. [passage omitted]

When the 1969 coup occurred and the monarchy collapsed, that coup did not offer anything. It was busy destroying the Libyan people's history and gains. It did not have any infrastructure. Therefore, when that coup regime collapses, the Libyans will have nothing to go back to except the original foundation, because there has been a vacuum ever since the coup. If the coup was a reform coup or if it had a certain ideology, it would be impossible for the monarchy to return, but the Libyan coup only created confusion. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Perhaps the vacuum will continue.

[Bin-Ghalbun] In that case change would still be possible, because the vacuum would simply be a continuation of al-Qadhdhafi's regime with no change. But we will remove al-Qadhdhafi sooner or later.

[Al-Husayni] How will you do that?

[Bin-Ghalbun] We of the Libyan Constitutional Union [LCU] are against coups. We are pained by the tragedies and results of the coups which swept the Arab world and we blame the military coups for all the Arab nation's failures and defeats. For the removal of al-Qadhdhafi and his regime, we rely on the people. We do our best to ensure that the idea of change comes from the people and not from any military organ or single party. Over the past years we have concentrated on reviving democracy and civilized progress in the minds of the Libyan people. We hope the change will come from the Libyan streets and from the Libyan tribes—but in line with the Constitution.

[Al-Husayni] That method takes a long time and requires much patience.

[Bin-Ghalbun] We are in no hurry. Al-Qadhdhafi will still be there. We proceed on that basis. We are under no illusions. We know that al-Qadhdhafi is playing a role in the service of certain international interests and that those behind these interests are protecting him, so he will remain in power.

[Al-Husayni] Have you, for instance, tried to stage large demonstrations urging the revival of the 1951 Constitution?

[Bin-Ghalbun] No. This is not the appropriate time for such a step. Perhaps in the coming days, with the changes being imposed on al-Qadhdhafi, we will be able to take such a step. Previously, such a step would have been suicidal. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Do you have have any popular influence at home?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Our weight at home stems from our influence on the public. There is a complete response. Today, the LCU demands, that is the call for the 1951 Constitution to be the government's constitution for the transitional period and the call for a referendum to determine the form of government after al-Qadhdhafi's departure, are now the general public's demands, thanks to the LCU's efforts. The best evidence of that is the fact that the other opposition factions, which rejected this approach because it is against their interests, as each faction wants to assume power itself, have now found themselves compelled to adopt the constitutional call. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Relations between you and the rest of the opposition seem very tense.

[Bin-Ghalbun] There are no relations between us to be tense. The opposition parties, in their exercise of politics, are realizing that they have to advocate the Constitution, or a constitution, to raise the national flag, and to hail struggle hero King Idris al-Sanusi. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Who is the new crown prince and what is his program?

[Bin-Ghalbun] I do not know. We have no organizational links with the pretender to the throne.

[Al-Husayni] But do you not know the new crown prince?

[Bin-Ghalbun] We of the LCU have maintained from the beginning that there should be a referendum to determine the form of government to be followed by an election of the individual, exactly as King Idris al-Sanusi came to power by popular demand.

[Al-Husayni] The Libyans may choose a system other than the monarchy.

[Bin-Ghalbun] That is possible. We will support what the people decide.

[Al-Husayni] So you are against the appointment of the new crown prince on the basis of his father's will?

[Bin-Ghalbun] I am not against it and I am not for it. That matter does not concern us. It is a family affair. We do not have a joint political program with Prince Muhammad al-Sanusi (the new crown prince). [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You do not seem to trust the opposition or pin any hopes on it.

[Bin-Ghalbun] If it continues as it is now, I would not pin any hopes on it. It would be ineffective. Contacts are now underway, how ever, with the aim of seizing this present opportunity and of forming a national assembly, because there are many points of understanding.

[Al-Husayni] How many parties does the Libyan opposition comprise?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Many parties.

[Al-Husayni] Are you still personally threatened by al-Qadhdhafi?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Al-Qadhdhafi is now incapable of harming anyone except those within his regime. All the Libyan people can be considered as hostages, but Libyans abroad are safe from al-Qadhdhafi because his wings have been clipped and he has enough problems to deny him the freedom of action he enjoyed in the eighties. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] From whom do you of the LCU receive aid?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Since its inception, the LCU has not received any aid from any side or state. We have always depended on internal backing and on our own funds. People interpreted that to mean that the LCU is small and does not need aid, but that is not true. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Like all Arab opposition parties, the Libyan opposition seems to have failed to preserve its independence and is now subject to the ebb and flow of relations between Libya and other states.

[Bin-Ghalbun] Except the LCU. We are not committed to anyone. We have not built a big reputation at the expense of an Arab state's dispute with al-Qadhdhafi and then suddenly lost it when Libya's ties with that state were mended. Our steps are slow but steady.

[Al-Husayni] Do you not have a broadcasting station beamed to Libya?

[Bin-Ghalbun] No. We rejected that. We were once offered a part in a broadcasting station transmitting from Khartoum in the days of Ja'far Numayri. We think not as politicians but as Arab citizens, and we refuse to be in any Arab country ruled by a regime that was a result of a military coup. We are trying to offer an ideology that could be used as way out of the vicious circle of military coups.

[Al-Husayni] Do you expect a Libyan openness to the United States and Britain, as is claimed in articles published in Libya?

[Bin Ghalbun] I am sure that will happen. In view of al-Qadhdhafi's new approach—the concessions he made to the British regarding the IRA and to the United States and the West by deporting the Palestinians, allowing them to be called terrorists and leaking their secrets and plans; and his agreement, in the name of the People's Congress, to hand over the Lockerbie incident suspects—the West is now seriously considering mending its relations with al-Qadhdhafi. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Since the assassination of Algerian President Boudiaf, with the accusing finger being pointed at the Islamic Salvation Front, some observers have maintained that it is better to keep al-Qadhdhafi in Libya, because the opposition is not ready, and if he fell the hardline extremists would seize power in Libya.

[Bin-Ghalbun] The opposition is not ready. That is a fact. If al-Qadhdhafi falls, neither the hardline fundamentalists nor the opposition would seize power. A civil war might begin. Libya is on the verge of a civil war.

[Al-Husayni] Among whom?

[Bin-Ghalbun] Among the Libyan tribes. The years of vacuum have dented the Libyan people's strength and unity and almost taken them back to the pre-World War I situation in terms of friction and absence of the state. Tribal powers and tribal links and fanaticism have returned, as they were before independence.

Now the Libyan tribes are making alliances. Because of the absence of the state, every tribe is seeking to protect itself. Every tribe is arming itself.

[Al-Husayni] From whom do they obtain arms?

[Bin-Ghalbun] In Libya now you can buy a Kalashnikov for 200 Libyan dinars. Some army personnel are selling weapons, and the state is arming some tribes. [passage omitted]

## Sudan

### Torit Falls to Armed Forces 13 Jul

*EA1407174592 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Jul (SUNA)—The Sudanese Armed Forces and the Popular Defense Forces recaptured Torit town in Equatoria State yesterday at 1630. The forces entered it after destroying the rebel forces there.

Earlier, and for several weeks, the Sudanese Armed Forces have been tightening their grip on Torit by besieging it.

With their capture of Torit, the Armed Forces have seized John Garang's headquarters, which he had been using as a seat for his movement and command. After the dissension in the ranks of the rebellion, John Garang's group became known as the Torit group. It is now destroyed by the liberation of Torit town.

It is worth mentioning that Torit fell into rebel hands in February 1989 when the Armed Forces withdrew from the town for technical reasons at that period.

The strategic value of Torit town is attributable to its being a route for supplies to the [rebel] movement. There is also a big airstrip in the town; it has many educational institutions, a large hospital, and a cathedral; it is the seat of the metropolitan archbishop of Sudan and Uganda; and it has a land route linking it to the Kenyan

town of Lokichoggio. Torit town is also linked to Ethiopia by the Jabal Buma route and to Uganda by a route through the town of (Farjuk) in the Acholi area in [southern Sudan].

The town is considered the main market of eastern Equatoria. The town also has agricultural areas around it where crops such as tea are grown—in (upper Talanqa). Sawmills can be found in the forested area of Katiri.

It is worth mentioning that the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Popular Defense Forces over the last few months recovered the towns of Pochala, Bor, Pibor, Mongalla, (Tanqla), Kapoeta, Yirol, and the Shambe and Mugiri areas.

### Al-Bashir Announces Victory

*EA1407185092 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Jul (SUNA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Council of Ministers, has announced that Torit was liberated on 13 July at 1630 in epic battles waged by the "Summer Crossing" forces.

His excellency said in a statement issued here today that the illusions of the rebels and their agents had vanished after the destruction of the seat of the so-called Torit group of rebels. The flags of peace and national unity have been unfurled.

He repeated the general amnesty for all who had been carrying arms and appealed to the sons of the homeland to return home to help with the reconstruction of a united Sudan and southern development. He added that the march of the Armed Forces and the Popular Defense Forces would continue to achieve peace and development by making all parts of the homeland secure.

Following the announcement by President 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir that the Sudanese Armed Forces had liberated the town of Torit, motorists, on hearing the news, started sounding their horns continuously to express their joy. Joyous crowds have taken to the streets of Khartoum and particularly to the areas near the University of Khartoum and the city's market.

### SPLA Official Interviewed

*AB1507102092 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Today's reports that the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] has lost control of Torit follow a two-week battle for the town between the rebels and Sudanese Government troops. It was captured by the SPLA in 1989 and it is strategically placed on one of the main supply routes into the south. Robin White asked the SPLA's London spokesman, (Steven Ba), if he could confirm that the government had recaptured Torit.

[Begin recording] [(Ba)] They did not capture it, they entered it. We allowed them to enter it. They did not fight to take it.

[White] You abandoned Torit.
[(Ba)] We did not abandon; we tactically withdrew and let them in, and now we have encircled them inside Torit.

[White] So what happened to all your people, your fighting men who are in Torit? Where have they gone to?
[(Ba)] They are at the suburbs of Torit, waiting for orders to launch a new attack.

[White] So, you are going to fight back?
[(Ba)] We are going to fight back.

[White] When will that fight back start?
[(Ba)] We will start as soon as possible.

[White] Where is John Garang himself?
[(Ba)] John Garang is in southern Sudan.

[White] Has he set up a new headquarters?
[(Ba)] Well, he will set up one very soon.

[White] Whereabout?
[(Ba)] Well, it may be in Juba.

[White] In Juba?
[(Ba)] Yes.

[White] That does not seem very likely.
[(Ba)] It is very likely.

[White] Why do you say that?
[(Ba)] I say that because we control most of Juba, with the exception of the airport.

[White] How much of Juba do you control?
[(Ba)] We control all the areas which were a garrison for the common troops including the southern command headquarters.

[White] Are there Sudanese troops left in Juba still?
[(Ba)] No, they are at the airport. They are not in the Juba town any longer.

[White] Are you trying to capture the airport?
[(Ba)] Yes, we are trying to capture the airport. Very soon, we will take it over.

[White] Reports from Khartoum say that the SPLA is now shelling residential areas of Juba. Are you saying that is not true?
[(Ba)] That is not true because it is the government shelling the residential areas because we occupy them. They are shelling from the airport and we are shelling from the city to the airport. So the fire coming from the airport into the city is from the government troops. That is the only last stronghold they hold we are aiming to.

[White] Civilians must be being killed in Juba.

[(Ba)] Yes, apparently by the government's fire, by the enemy's fire, from the Sudanese Government troops in the airport. They are shelling the city very heavily.

[White] Are you sure it is not your people?
[(Ba)] Not our people. Our people are shelling the airport.

[White] Where do you go now from here, after the fall of Torit?
[(Ba)] We will take Torit, even Kapoeta, all the areas they have taken, we are going to take them this rainy season. We will not allow them to remain in these areas. Torit is a ghost town. They will find nobody there and they will be wiped out very soon.

[White] People in Khartoum seem to be celebrating. They are saying the war will now not have to be ended by dialogue. They seem to think that the SPLA is defeated militarily.
[(Ba)] No, this is an illusion. We are many years away from defeat. It is not possible because we are just like fish in the sea. You cannot finish all the fish in the sea. [end recording]

## Garang Escapes Government Forces Ambush

*PM1407142492 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 13 Jul 92 pp 1, 4*

[Report by Mu'awiyah Yasin and 'Amr Muhammad Hasan: "Garang Escapes Sudanese Army Ambush"]

[Excerpts] Khartoum—A Sudanese military spokesman told AL-HAYAH that Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in opposition to the Sudanese Government, escaped the day before yesterday an ambush set by government forces in an area where he was meeting with his senior aides, east of Kajo Kaji near the Sudanese-Ugandan border. The spokesman revealed that government forces are currently stationed four km from Torit, the main base for Col. Garang's command.

Staff Major General Muhammad 'Abdallah 'Umaydah, commander of the morale guidance branch and official spokesman for the Sudanese Army, pointed out that government forces drew up a rigorous plan to attack a position where they knew that Garang was meeting with his senior aides, east of Kajo Kaji, believed to be currently used by Garang as a center for his forces' command after he evacuated Torit last month.

But Garang left the position half an hour before the attack began. 'Uwaydah said that in the attack government forces seized two artillery vehicles, military vehicles, and arms from Col. Garang's forces. [passage omitted]

The Sudanese military spokesman revealed to AL-HAYAH that the Army's forces are currently stationed four km from Torit and that "we expect to enter it at any time." [passage omitted]

## Southern Leader Backs Unity, Self-Determination

*NC1507102392 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 11 Jul 92 p 6*

[Excerpts] Abuja—Dr. Mansur Khalid, former Sudanese foreign minister and spokesman for the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Sudan, has said that the recent Abuja talks between the southerners and the Sudanese Government, which took place as a result of Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida's mediation, aimed to put an end to the war in the south and to achieve peace throughout unified Sudan. He noted that the talks were an extension of previous meetings held in Addis Ababa and Nairobi and said that the Abuja meeting was characterized by neither of the sides setting out preconditions.

In an interview with an AL-AHRAM correspondent, he said that in its opening statement, the movement announced as its strategic objective Sudanese unity under a constitution that separates religion and politics and accepts federation as a basis for government. The government announced that it accepts federation as long as Sudan is governed according to the views it has announced and on the basis of which it has established its institutions—namely as a religious state. The basic concession it made was to let southerners apply the penal laws they wished to see in their regions, which means exempting them from the application of the shari'ah.

Asked why the southerners did not accept this proposal, Dr. Khalid said it wasn't new to them, because the disagreement was never about banning alcohol or chopping the hand of a thief or any other such punishment. What we are talking about is politics or what I call "state politics." The popular movement is fighting for a state in which no one is a second class citizen. The issue is not how the regions govern themselves; it is about central government authorities and federal state laws that apply to every citizen. [passage omitted]

Asked about the alternative proposed by the popular movement, the official spokesman said the movement viewed this approach logically. If this was really the view of the northerners, those who refuse to live in their country as second class citizens should be given the right to self-determination; this ranges between choosing secession or confederation. [passage omitted]

Asked whether the south's secession has become the movement's new approach, Dr. Khalid said: None of the movement's statements mentioned the south's secession. We have discussed the right to self-determination for all those who carried arms against the regime; they include southerners and others who came from central Sudan. We must not be confused with the group that split from the movement and declared secession as its objective. [passage omitted]

Asked in which direction Sudan is moving, he said: Sadly, Sudan will remain in the dark, involved in bloody conflict, unless God gives its leaders the wisdom to help them realize that the country's unity can only be

achieved by accepting diversity. No one group should try to dominate another racially, economically, or in terms of religion. Secession will not be the solution to the problems of the south or Sudan in general. [passage omitted]

### Regime Said Plotting Against Egypt

*NC1407183492 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 11 Jul 92 p 1*

[Report by 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Sudanese opposition factions have informed Egyptian security organs of plans against Egypt by Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, leader of the Sudanese Islamic Front. The opposition has accused the ruling military regime in Sudan of smuggling weapons to Egyptian extremists and setting up three camps to train them in northern Sudan, the objective being to shatter peace and stability in Egypt. The sources cited a statement by al-Turabi in which he stressed exporting the Islamic revolution to all Arab countries.

Faruq Abu-'Isa, secretary general of the Arab Lawyers Union, has accused the Sudanese regime of destroying the country's relations with Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia. He pointed out that Khartoum's allegations that Egypt and Saudi Arabia are providing military aid to the popular forces stem from the regime's inability to deal with the problem in the south militarily and politically. Abu-'Isa described Sudan as having been transformed into a shelter for extremist Arabs and an Iranian base, thanks to al-Turabi.

### Chadian Official Arrives With Letter for al-Bashir

*EA1407194592 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Jul (SUNA)—On 13 July the deputy speaker of Chad's consultative assembly, Maldoum Abbas, arrived in Khartoum for an official visit during which he will deliver a letter to Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Council of Ministers, from Chadian President Idriss Deby.

He was received at the airport by Mr. Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, speaker of the Transitional National Assembly, and a number of assembly members.

### Islamic Development Loan Initialed

*EA1207193592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 11th July (SUNA)—A 8.5 million dollar loan agreement was signed in Jeddah Thursday [9 July] between the Sudan Government and the Islamic Development Bank, I.D.B.

The state minister for finance and economic planning Dr Muhammad Khayr al-Zubayr signed on behalf of the Sudan Government, while the Bank's director, Dr Ahmed Muhammad Ali, signed for I.D.B.

Dr Zubayr told SUNA that the loan would be exploited in the rehabilitation of the irrigation system in the northern state. Meanwhile Dr Zubayr said that he had also signed the foundation agreement of the Islamic corporation for guaranteeing exports and investment which is also signed by all finance ministers of the I.D.B. member states. He concluded the agreement would encourage exports and flow of investments among the Islamic countries.

## Kuwait

### Prime Minister Urges Vigilance Toward Iraq

*LD1507095292 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 14 July (KUNA)—His highness the heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah stressed that the Iraqi regime still poses a danger to Kuwait and to the area states because it still continues its conspiracies against us. He called for vigilance, precaution and strengthening cooperation among all the states of the area in various political, media, military, and economic fields to confront these conspiracies.

His highness gave an interview to a delegation of Arab correspondents yesterday which was published today in the newspapers SAWT AL-KUWAYT and AL-QABAS. He was commenting on the article which was written by the symbols of the Iraqi regime Barzan al-Tikriti some days ago. He said this article was a balloon to monitor the reactions to what it contained of ideas at the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] and international level.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah explained that this article was carefully worded in an academic fashion and it was studied beforehand. It was not published in order to be read and then thrown away but in order to be analyzed and its dimensions and aims researched. His highness asked why this article was published under the name of Barzan and why it was published at this time in particular and why it raised those ideas. He stressed that the article was published with Saddam Husayn's approval and after Saddam had read it. This points to the fact that the article has not come from a vacuum and that there were specific aims behind it.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah called for this article to be studied very carefully and analyzed in order to learn its aims and objectives, especially when it contained many signs which call on us to be constantly vigilant and cautious so that we are not blamed for not doing so. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah described his visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and said that it was successful, fruitful, and positive. He added: "My meeting with the custodian of the two holy mosques was positive, fruitful, and frank. We reviewed all the issues which concern the GCC generally, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia in particular, he said. I found the custodian of the two holy mosques to be very enthusiastic, and has a genuine desire to cooperate with Kuwait and with the brothers in the GCC in various fields and to translate what goes on in the minds of the sons of the area into tangible action."

The heir apparent and prime minister affirmed that the domestic situation in Kuwait is reassuring. He said that the situation is getting better. His highness pointed out that as an official he expected some security problems such as those bomb explosions which took place a little while ago. This is because destabilizing the security and tranquility of the country is one of the aims of Saddam Husayn and probably similar incidents would happen again.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah affirmed that the security service is doing its best and it is waiting for these terrorist acts which are aimed at shaking the security and stability of the country. He pointed out that conditions will improve with time because we have moved from the stage of reconstruction to the stage of reviving the economy. We began production with carefully studied methods. Conditions have begun to improve. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah affirmed that any current that will reach the coming National Assembly will in the end be working in the service of Kuwait. "It is because I believe that every Kuwaiti has set his heart on Kuwait and regardless of the differences in views and whatever the discussions the desire of all of us remains: to safeguard the entity and the security of Kuwait."

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah stressed that Kuwait does not punish anyone on account of his or her nationality. Those upright and sincere ones always earn our respect whatever their nationality. The best example is the presence of many upright Palestinians who are still living and working in the country quite normally. His highness clarified that the slanders which have been spread by some media organs concerning this matter are purely machinations, the purpose of which is to hurt Kuwait.

### Petroleum Minister Comments on Norway Meeting

*LD1207190492 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1748 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Jul (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Petroleum Minister Hamud al-Ruqbah said that the oil-producing and exporting countries and the consuming countries, during their recent meeting in Norway, agreed on the need to continue the dialogue between them

The oil minister pointed out in a statement to KUNA after his return here this evening that Spain has said it will host talks on its territory next year.

He said that the meeting between the oil-producing and exporting countries and the consuming countries, held in Norway 2-3 July, had concentrated on the issues of pollution, the environment, and carbon tax.

Dr. al-Ruqbah affirmed that the imposition of the carbon tax will bring enormous damage to the oil-producing countries, and expressed astonishment at the European point of view with respect to pollution caused by oil in light of coal making greater pollution.

Al-Ruqbah pointed out that during his visit he held consultations on the sidelines with some of the OPEC countries, such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Indonesia, and Venezuela.

Replying to a question he said that the stances of the consuming countries toward OPEC varied, but that all the European countries support the carbon tax.

He mentioned that there was coordination and conformity in the viewpoints of the oil-producing and exporting countries, which met on the sidelines of the dialogue.

In a reply to a question about the steps the oil-producing and exporting countries will take toward the carbon tax, he mentioned that "it will be discussed at the forthcoming OPEC meeting to be held in Geneva in September."

## Saudi Arabia

### Government Eyes Reducing Oil Revenue Dependence

*LD1207152192 Riyadh SPA in English 1239 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Dhahran, July 12, SPA—The research institute at King Fahd Petroleum and Minerals University has completed an extensive study on the petrochemical industries in the kingdom.

Director of the Administration of Petroleum and Natural Gas Technology at the institute Dr. Ali Ghirmalla Muaadah, who contributed to the preparation of the study, said the Saudi Government is keen on diversification of its economic base and lessening dependence on the oil revenues.

The development plans have successfully realized the general targets in the field of industrial policy, he said.

The development plans aim at increasing the productive capacity of the national economy and utilizing to the optimum level the available natural resources, he said.

He added that the development plans aim at replacing the imported commodities with local-made products, increasing export of the industrial products.

He pointed out that the kingdom is keen on enhancing industrial cooperation with the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states and development of joint industrial projects as well as strengthening the kingdom's relations with the Arab and Islamic countries.

The kingdom desires close relations with the rest of the countries and benefit from the advanced technology, he said.

For his part, Dr. Mohammed Abu Shibak, the associate professor at the Administration of Petroleum and Gas Technology, said the petrochemical industries depend on petroleum and gas as primary raw materials.

He pointed out that the petrochemical industries are characterized by big capitals.

The Saudi Government has started to implement a long-term plan for establishment of giant petrochemical industries based on hydrocarbonic materials and intensive usage of energy, he said. The role of the private sector in the field of petrochemicals is confined to consumer products like plastic industries, paints, rubber, and other chemicals.

In the field of the basic petrochemical industries, he said the contribution of the private sector is very limited.

In the last few years, a number of stock companies specialized in investments in the field of petrochemical industries have surfaced.

The study called for establishment of downstream industries like tyres, nail-polish, textiles and gum-paper.

## Yemen

### Plane Crash Near Aden Results in 68 Deaths

*JN1507051092 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The Presidential Council has expressed its deep regret and sadness for the painful accident involving an Antonov plane at approximately 1935 yesterday. The plane was travelling from the island of Socotra to the city of Aden. According to an initial report, the plane reached Aden airspace amid bad weather conditions. The pilot requested permission from Aden Airport's control tower to leave for Sanaa Airport. But a short time later, all contact with the plane was lost, and the plane crashed outside Aden. All 68 passengers on board, military and civilian, were martyred.

The Presidential Council has set up an inquiry commission comprising the brothers defense minister, transport minister, chief of the Public Civil Aviation Organization, deputy chief of staff for technical affairs and industrialization, and commander of the Air Force and Air Defense.

While announcing the sad news of this accident, the Presidential Council emphasizes its care for the families of the martyrs, and expresses sympathy for their relatives and kinfolk. It extends deepest condolences, and it implores God Almighty to grant the martyrs His paradise.

From God we come and to Him we return.

### UN Envoy Demands Inspection Team Leave Site

*JN1407174992 Baghdad INA in English 1733 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] United Nations, Jul. 14, INA—Ambassador 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari confirmed that Iraq would not permit the inspection team nor the Security Council to extort Iraq.

He has said in statements to journalists after a meeting with president of the Security Council this morning that the inspection team must depart its place in front of the building of the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation though the Iraqis wish them to entertain the scorching heat of the sun.

He has added that the inspection team does not exercise its official task but a stupid act "we would not allow it and they have to leave to inspect any other site provided it should not include any government buildings and ministries headquarters. [no close quotes as received]

The Ambassador al-Anbari said the Resolution 706 imposes many restraints on the Iraqi oil and one member or two of the Security Council want to use oil as a means of daily interference in Iraq's domestic affairs and deduct 50 per cent of the revenues for illegitimate purposes and try to plunder Iraq's riches.

He has stressed that it is time for the Security Council to respond to its obligations after Iraq has implemented more than 90 per cent of its obligations.

### UN Inspection Team Termed 'Group of Spies'

*JN1407123392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jul (INA)—AL-QADISIYAH has asserted that the provocations made by the international inspection teams have become a ready-made method to level fabricated accusations so as to maintain the unjust economic blockade under the pretext of Iraq's challenge to the authority of the Security Council.

The paper, speaking for the Defense Ministry, said today that the provocations and other accompanying deliberate incidents by the inspection teams, are aimed at publicly prejudicing Iraq's sovereignty and national authority.

The paper asks: How can we explain the strange requests made incessantly by the inspection teams to visit pure civilian departments, such as a department that markets tires, a prison, or even a school or a hospital?

The paper points out that the psychological objective behind the insolent provocations of the inspection teams is more important for the enemies than finding any particular documents at any site. The paper affirms that these teams deliberately choose—in accordance with orders issued by the White House—buildings and institutions that have no connection whatsoever with manufacturing and storing weapons.

The paper adds that in addition to the psychological objective sought by the inspection teams, they want to lay their hands on Iraq's strategic grain reserves so that Bush and his followers would modify their plans regarding tightening and maintaining the blockade. Thus, they are doing a purely intelligence job that has absolutely nothing to do with their mission. They are a group of spies, the paper says.

The paper stresses the need to examine the equipment brought in by the inspection teams to use in their missions, which includes a sophisticated television transmission device linked directly with the White House. The device could be used to photocopy documents and pictures and transmit them abroad. This reminds us of what the former spy, David Kay, did when he broke into the building of the General Federation of Workers.

The paper concludes: We are not dealing with international inspection teams, but with part of the scenario of conspiracy, whose heroes are true spies. If we allow them today to inspect any certain building, this will not satisfy them and they will ask for more. They might even go further and ask us to allow them to inspect our bedrooms.

### Letter to UN—Baghdad Boycotting Border Talks

*JN1407201592 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1810 GMT 14 Jul 92*

["Text" of a letter from Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Your excellency: I have the honor to inform you that we were notified that the Border Demarcation Committee had decided to hold its sixth session in New York from 15-24 July 1992. On this occasion, I would like to refer you to the letter I sent you on 21 May 1992 regarding the decisions made on 24 April 1992 by the Border Demarcation Committee you named during its fifth session. In this letter, I explained in detail the Iraqi Government's views with regard to this serious issue, which is of critical importance to the interests of both Iraq and other parts of the world which are the scenes of international border disputes.

In this letter, I explained how the Security Council unprecedentedly squeezed the issue of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border within Resolution 687 of 1991 by imposing a specific formula on it when it is well-known from both the legal and practical points of view in international dealings that border issues are left to agreement by the countries concerned. This is because this is the only way in which stability can be achieved along the border. Similarly, I indicated how the arrangements made by the UN secretary general to achieve the purposes dictated by the Security Council with regard to the so-called border demarcation have failed to either do justice or secure fairness. These arrangements failed to achieve a balance between the positions of the two sides and treat them equally in some extremely crucial aspects of these

arrangements, such as the method for forming the Border Demarcation Committee, the method it pursued to perform its technical tasks, the decisionmaking mechanism it adopted, as well as the nature and characteristics of the decisions it made, not to mention some other important issues.

It is quite clear to your excellency that I went to great lengths in my letter, citing a single example showing how the committee made a major and crucial decision regarding the course of the borderline which was determined by a survey viewpoint that was basically based on British correspondence and maps that date back to a period when Britain was the colonial power dominating the region.

In this regard, I also mentioned how the committee adopted this course in general. I also said that the committee failed to demonstrate carefulness in settling issues and to examine the documents and memoranda the Iraqi representative submitted. This was manifested by the fact that it adopted its crucial and technical decisions in haste and without carefulness. These decisions betrayed an obvious pressure from the Kuwaiti regime's representatives. Thus, the decisions came about as a host of answers to questions that suggest certain answers—questions submitted to the two experts. The answers suggested by the questions took the form of proposals. Common sense was not heeded. Besides, the standard operating procedures and the intertwined nature of crucial issues were ignored.

Thus, the committee ended up adopting a group of decisions that were unilateral in source and content. You are aware that I drew attention to the fact that the committee granted the representative of the Kuwaiti regime the opportunity to present the issue of delineating the maritime borders in Khawr 'Abdallah despite the fact that the committee's prerogatives do not cover this point according to the opinion of the two independent experts who are supported by the committee's chairman. This was clearly done to ensure the desire of the Kuwait rulers at the expense of Iraq's historical rights and vital maritime navigational interests.

I also explained to you that the actual field work of the committee blatantly testifies to the desire to implement a basic committee decision in a way that contradicts with its content. This was done by including the Kuwait representative and experts in the field work. The committee's work was not free of the direct intervention of the General Secretariat.

Thus, the end result of this work is the basic fact that the issue of dealing with the border issue has been justified and steered in accordance with preset course in order to end up in resolutions imposed on Iraq without any consideration for Iraq's interests and all the facts that support these interests, thus leaving no room for providing justice to Iraq's territorial interests.

As I mentioned in my letter, we continue to believe that the committee's decision was a purely political decision imposed by the powers that rule the UN Security Council and the United Nations today, especially the Governments of the United States and Britain, and that the political aim behind this decision is clear; namely, not only robbing Iraq of its rights and harming its vital interests but also promoting the premeditated intention of creating instability in the region to justify the presence of the U.S. and British forces and military bases in order to continue blackmailing the existing regimes and plundering oil wealth.

After a prolonged study of all factors and circumstances, we have come to the conclusion that Iraq's opinion is not being heard in the committee and that regardless of our efforts to make it heard, there will be no opportunity for us to create an atmosphere of objectivity and justice. This is because there is a premeditated tendentious decision to harm Iraqi interests and deny Iraq's historical rights by the states that planned the committee's work. One of the salient facts that confirms our conclusion is that the Security Council has seen the letter that I sent to you and instead of making it an incentive for patient study and fair investigation, the abovementioned states resorted to compelling the council to issue a presidential statement that included only unobjective explanations and threats.

Based on the above reasons, we do not find that our participation in the abovementioned committee will serve any useful result.

Please accept our regards.

[Signed] Ahmad Husayn, the foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq.

## Security Council Asked To End Blockade

*JN1507112292 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1037 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Iraq has asked the Security Council to invalidate all its anti-Iraq resolutions dictated by the circumstances of the previous stage, including the resolution on the unjust blockade, and to return things to their pre-August 1990 status.

An INA correspondent in New York cited Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn as saying in a letter to the UN secretary general yesterday that the continuation of the blockade against Iraq has lost its meaning now that Iraq has met all its obligations toward the Security Council resolutions. The blockade is now nothing but a measure to hurt a brave, great, and ancient people.

The foreign minister said in his letter, which was considered to be a Security Council document, that such an act is not provided for, either explicitly or implicitly, in the UN Charter or the Security Council resolutions. Maintaining the blockade would abolish the legal basis of the Security Council resolutions and give Iraq, if it wanted to, the right to deal with those resolutions on the

basis of ability and opportunity, not on the basis of convincing legal commitment.

The minister stressed the need for the Security Council to allow Iraq to export its oil naturally and normally, as it used to do before the August 1990 events, so that the Iraqi people can enjoy their human rights, away from the very long series of restrictions, complications, and interference in the country's domestic affairs.

### UN 'Connivance' With Kuwaitis in Safwan Seen

*JN1407094592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jul (INA)—The henchmen of the regime imposed on Kuwait have repeated their transgressions against Iraqi farmers in the Safwan area under the flag and protection of the UN forces stationed in the area.

Residents have confirmed to a correspondent for AL-THAWRAH—who saw the transgressions with his own eyes—that many Kuwaiti vehicles had entered Safwan and toured it without any objection by the international observers, despite the fact that they were armed with weapons in a demilitarized zone.

The paper noted that the entry of Kuwaiti vehicles and their touring the area had provoked residents and harmed agricultural produce, especially tomatoes.

The newspaper's correspondent also observed certain acts that confirm the connivance of UN workers with the armed Kuwaitis, who are being transported in the area under the UN umbrella to carry out spying missions against Iraq's sovereignty and security.

### Minister Receives Outgoing UNDP Representative

*JN1407135692 Baghdad INA in English 1230 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Baghdad, July 14, INA—Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf today received Mr. Salih Burjini, the resident representative of the United Nation Development Program [UNDP] in Iraq, on the expiry of his term of office.

During the meeting, the minister praised the UN official's role in promoting cooperation between the international organization and the Iraqi parties concerned and the competent authorities at the Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Burjini expressed high appreciation of the support and cooperation shown by the Iraqi officials along his stay in Baghdad.

### Saddam Orders 25 Percent Raise for Journalists

*JN1407182492 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has ordered that Iraqi journalists be granted professional allowances totaling 25 percent of their salary.

This was stated to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi Journalists Association. 'Udayy added that the leader president, who made a habit of showering us with noble gestures, has made a new chivalrous gesture by approving a request the Iraqi Journalists Association earlier submitted to his excellency.

The president of the Iraqi Journalists Association went on to say that leader President Saddam Husayn, by this new noble gesture of his, has put on the shoulders of the press community the trust of demonstrating perseverance, honesty, and persistence, and of showing further competence in service of great Iraq and its jihad march.

'Udayy Saddam Husayn noted that the new gesture made toward the press community by the leader president came in the wake of a previous gesture, according to which housing land tracts were granted to all members of the press community in their home towns. Similarly, this gesture came on the heels of another decision the president made to support the Journalists Association with 3 million dinars.

'Udayy Saddam Husayn pointed out that leader President Saddam Husayn's support and care for journalists and for improving their living, economic, and social conditions provide a solid base that could enable journalists to play their role, which was spelled out by the leader when he said: "Journalists are leaders in the community."

Concluding his statement, 'Udayy Saddam Husayn thanked, on behalf of the press community, leader President Saddam Husayn for this new gesture, affirming that Iraqi journalists will view it as an incentive for creative and innovative action, and also for promoting their inventiveness to render it commensurate with the care that they enjoy from the dear leader.

### Five Killed, 10 Wounded in Marshlands Attack

*NC1407145692 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The artillery of Saddam, our people's enemy, this morning began a concentrated bombardment of the marshlands of al- 'Amarah, targeting inhabitants and houses in the areas of (Um al- Hush), (al-Muzar), and (al-Hikayya). Five people were killed and 10 others, including women and children, were wounded in Saddam's aggression against our folk in these regions. Some families had to flee to other regions to protect their women and children from the cowardly Saddamite aggression.

The heroes and mujahidin of the popular uprising warn the humiliated 'Aflaqites of the consequences of continuing their brutality and aggression against women and children. The head of one revolutionary committee has stated that the humiliated Saddam's intentions to attack the densely populated areas will only bring him and his

proteges utter failure. He added: Let them remember how their forces were dispersed in late May. The bodies of the mercenaries of Saddam, the enemy of humanity, are still floating on the waters of the marshlands in the southern revolutionary districts of Iraq.

## Opposition Urges Canceling Arab League Membership

*NC1507063692 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Iraqi factions, parties, and organizations opposed to the regime of the dictator Saddam have recently called for the 'Aflaqite regime's membership in the Arab League and its affiliated agencies to be suspended. They sent a message to this effect to the Arab League secretary general.

Meanwhile, opposition factions outside the homeland have sent messages to the kings, amirs, and presidents of the Arab states, drawing their attention to the failing regime's attempts to normalize relations with the Arab states. The regime was isolated as a result of Saddam's invasion and occupation of Kuwait. According to news reports from outside the homeland, the opposition's messages urge the Arab leaders to pay attention to the criminal 'Aflaqites' destruction of the country and plunder of the people's wealth. The messages also refer to Saddam's unjust invasion of Kuwait, a fellow Arab country, which caused a division in Arab ranks.

### Preparations for Baker Visit Outlined

*TA1507050192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Report by Yo'el Nir]

[Text] Jerusalem has already contracted political fever, and both the prime minister and the foreign minister burned the midnight oil last night. The immediate concern is U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's visit next week.

Baker has declared that he means business, which means he will be practical and seek to achieve results. In a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday, Baker said that he is coming to discuss all the outstanding issues between the two countries; in other words, the guarantees and the advancement of the talks with the Palestinians.

With regard to guarantees, it is assumed he will bring proposals satisfactory to Jerusalem. These are presumably based mainly on a formula devised by Eytan Bentzur and Dennis Ross some time in the past, which was rejected as a result of the previous government's refusal to freeze settlement construction even partially. This problem is no longer relevant, as is the question of government commitment to refrain from using guarantees funds beyond the Green Line.

Jerusalem believes that James Baker will also bring proposals concerning autonomy talks with the Palestinians and that he may propose interim arrangements and elections in the territories as the first stage toward autonomy.

This morning Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will meet to discuss proposals of their own, and senior Foreign Ministry officials will convene to plan Baker's three-day visit beginning Sunday. By the way, the schedule of Yitzhaq Rabin's visit to the United States will also be planned during Baker's stay.

News received in Jerusalem from Cairo indicate that President Mubarak is considering meeting Yitzhaq Rabin prior to Rabin's departure for Washington.

### Rabin, Peres Discuss Strategy

*TA1507110092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin this morning met Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to discuss plans for next week's talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. The minister is now meeting Finance Minister Avraham Shohat to prepare for the economic aspects of the talks, including the issue of the loan guarantees. Incoming Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin said a short while ago he is sure the United States will be more generous now that the policy of the Israeli Government has changed. Jack Katzenell reports:

The meeting between Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres lasted over an hour. Officials in Jerusalem expect Secretary Baker to ask his Israeli hosts what precisely has changed in Israeli policy. The incoming Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin told Qol Yisra'el a short while ago: Baker will receive interesting answers, which point to a real change in policy. Beilin said this government does not believe in settling areas with a large Palestinian population. This government has a different attitude to Resolutions 242 and 338, and this government intends to push ahead with the peace process as rapidly as possible, Beilin said. One of the proposals adopted in Jerusalem in the past 24 hours is that the Israeli delegation to the next round of the bilateral talks in Rome will take up residence there instead of coming home after a few days of talks.

Beilin predicted that the United States would be much more forthcoming on the loan guarantees now that the policy of the government has changed. Officials in Jerusalem expect the Americans to put pressure on the Palestinians to agree to a timetable for the autonomy plan. Yosi Beilin said that it is very important to Israel that the Americans endeavor to convince the Arab side that this is a rare opportunity, and we should not let it slip.

The new government is not making any changes in the division of responsibility for the bilateral negotiations. The prime minister will appoint the delegation for talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and for the talks with Syria. The delegation for talks with Lebanon will be appointed jointly by Foreign Minister Peres and the incoming Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Gur. [passage omitted]

### Defense Minister-Designate Comments

*TA1507071592 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Telephone interview with Mordekhay Gur, deputy defense minister-designate, by Gay Zohar and No'omi Qeren—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Mordekhay Gur, the defense minister-designate, is on the line. Good morning, sir.

[Gur] Good morning.

[Zohar] We would like to discuss matters pertaining to peace and to the talks due to be held in Israel. After all, the cabinet is not going to have sufficient time to discuss things prior to Baker's arrival, and it is therefore reasonable to assume that what Rabin and Peres will propose to Baker will be based on Labor's doctrines.

[Gur] First of all, I believe that our discussions during this early visit—particularly since it will last a mere three or four days and there will hardly be time for preparations—will be based on Labor's tenets and Labor's approach to the negotiations. The latter is indeed the most important thing. As far as timetables are concerned, the negotiations the Likud conducted since the

Madrid conference have been rather limping. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, on the other hand, has stressed that he means to achieve a continuous process. I assume the talks with Baker will revolve around the meaning of the term continuous process, around the question of whether our neighbors—the Palestinians, Jordan, and Syria—both want and are able to sustain such a process. Our position, naturally, is that we need serious, continuous, ongoing negotiations that will address timely problems.

[Qeren] Don't you think Baker will want the Israeli Government to make more concrete commitments?

[Gur] I do not think he can expect anything beyond the commitments the prime minister has made, because it is not necessary at this point. After all, the negotiations are not between us and the Americans, but between us and our neighbors, and mainly between us and the Palestinians, as Labor has stressed. This meeting cannot substitute for negotiations with the Palestinians. Therefore, the talks will revolve around the continuous nature of the negotiations which, I imagine, will require greater U.S. involvement, which we have never basically opposed. Naturally, we will not let them conduct our negotiations, but the United States has proved in the past that its services can be important and useful, and on this matter we are not going to play games of national pride. We are seeking as full a cooperation as possible, taking American interests, as well as our own, into consideration.

[Zohar] We are more or less familiar with the American stands as they have been expressed since the beginning of negotiations under the Likud government. Under the current U.S. proposal which, judging by reports from Washington, will be submitted during Baker's visit, Israel will be required to pledge to start a phased withdrawal of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops from cities in Judaea and Samaria in exchange for a pledge by the local leadership to stop violence in the territories. Is this formula acceptable to the new government?

[Gur] This formula has never come up for discussion in the Labor party—either at the party convention or in the course of the election campaign. This is clearly an issue for the negotiations. The IDF's redeployment [preceding word in English] as described in the Camp David accords is contingent on the nature of the agreement itself. I do not believe anyone can even conceive of discussing deployment before we know what kind of agreement will be achieved with regard to land, water, roads, law, police. In my opinion, all the speculation speaking of implementing certain parts of the accords is mere speculation. Before the basic principle of autonomy is determined, before the principles of Jewish-Arab coexistence are determined, we cannot speak of details of the IDF deployment, because the IDF deployment is directly linked to state security, to the security of the Jewish population centers. In my opinion, we should not do things backwards. It is necessary to decide that the negotiations are to be continuous, businesslike, and profound and to seek solutions—possibly with U.S. assistance—to several problems beleaguering both the Palestinians and us. We will hold businesslike discussions. I do not think it is either correct or wise to speculate on the basis of incomplete data; this is not how negotiations should be conducted.

[Qeren] Today's newspapers report that the Israeli Government has pledged to hold elections in the territories by April 1993. That was one of the proposed dates. Do you believe general elections in the territories will include East Jerusalem?

[Gur] First of all, I am not aware of this. I am not saying it was not published, merely that I was not aware of the existence of a date for elections. After all, the concept of elections came up when Yitzhaq Rabin was defense minister in the Likud government, or even earlier, during the 1988 election campaign.

[Zohar] We were trying to concentrate on the issue of elections in East Jerusalem.

[Gur] Yes, I am getting there. Elections were explicitly discussed then, but Jerusalem was not to be part of the autonomy arrangement. Jerusalem is not up for discussion or negotiations at this time and, as we have often said before, those who wish to stall or torpedo the negotiations will focus on the issue of Jerusalem. Those who signed the Camp David accords were perceptive enough to defer this issue to the end of the negotiations, because it is then that all the sides will be required to show the greatest readiness to make concessions. For that reason, I suggest that we refrain from focusing on Jerusalem at this time; any attempt to resolve the question now can only be an obstacle. To achieve coexistence and the implementation of autonomy, to reach an interim period during which the Arabs will be able to have self-rule while the Jews will be able to live as Israeli citizens, we have to address everyday issues pragmatically. In my view, the issue of Jerusalem will not be the focal question, and no decisions on the issue have been made ahead of time.

[Zohar] You said the negotiations are not between us and the Americans, except for one issue: the loan guarantees. The Americans have presented Israel with a clear-cut formula: a settlement freeze in return for guarantees. Is the formula, as it featured in the government guidelines with its definitions of confrontation lines and Rabin's talk of political settlements—is it what the Americans mean, or will we have to work hard to convince them that this is what they want?

[Gur] I assume this will be one of the problems that will be discussed with Secretary Baker. I believe the problem can be overcome. There will be several issues: The first, as you said earlier, the extent to which Palestinian representatives living or working in Jerusalem can participate in the Palestinian delegation; second, whether this delegation can carry out the tasks, in which case no elections are necessary; and third, the question of security settlements. Our approach is clear: the Israeli presence along confrontation lines should be beefed up, both

in the shape of settlement and of military control. On this issue, there is a very serious disparity between us and the Americans. If it transpires in the talks with the Americans that by taking certain partial steps—more concrete or more temporary—we will be able to promote the issue, that is, receive the guarantees that will help us advance economic matters and absorb immigrants—Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's observations about national priorities indicate that on this issue we are much more flexible, and I am certain that the Americans and we will be able to reach a formulation that will allow us to receive the guarantees.

[Zohar] Deputy Defense Minister-Designate Mordekhay Gur, thank you and a good morning.

### Baker Seeking 'Grand Deal'

*TA1507103092 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Jul 92 pp 1, 15*

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer and Rami Tal in Washington]

[Excerpt] Secretary of State James Baker will try during his visit to the Middle East next week to get a "grand deal," which will give momentum to the peace process and, equally important, help President Bush raise his prestige, which is now at an unprecedented low. That is what well-informed sources in Washington said yesterday.

The sources said that the President and Baker decided on the visit after secret diplomatic contacts with Rabin and Arab leaders over the past two weeks indicated that there is a real chance of obtaining the agreement of all sides (or at least most of them) to a series of mutual confidence-building measures, as follows:

—An Israeli commitment to stop settlement in areas of highly dense Arab population, which would permit President Bush to make a commitment about the granting of loan guarantees for immigrant absorption to Israel to the tune of $10 billion.

—A commitment by the Israeli Government on a target date for general elections in the territories. (The reference is to a date no later than April 1993, but an announcement on the date will be made during Rabin's visit to Washington.)

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 15 July, in a report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Ori Nir on pages A1, 8, says that "yesterday, it transpired that Rabin plans to offer the Palestinians general elections within six months on condition that they do not include East Jerusalem and they will be conducted after violence ceases."]

In the first stage, which will take place close to the elections in the territories, there will be a symbolic withdrawal of forces, which will be given wide media coverage. If that bring about the hoped for decline of the intifadah, the second stage of the withdrawal of forces will be implemented within a relatively short time.

—An expression of mutual readiness by Israel and Syria to start negotiations on a separation of forces on the Golan Heights. This also, at least in the initial stage, will be a symbolic separation with a number of armored brigades on both sides pulling back to a distance of some 15 km from their present positions.

—Repealing the Arab boycott on foreign firms trading with Israel.

—The start of negotiations on the inclusion of Arab foreign religious elements—probably senior Saudi religious figures—in managing the al-Aqsa and 'Umar mosques on Jerusalem's Temple Mount. That clause is especially problematic because there is a sharp dispute over it between Jordan—which claims that it is the Arab protector of the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem—and Saudi Arabia, which for years has been sending funds to the Muslim waqf in Jerusalem and is very interested in achieving control over the mosques. It is still unclear what the Rabin government's stand on the issue will be.

The Baker visit is meant to find out which of these aims are realistic and to prepare the ground for a public statement on the matter during the Bush-Rabin meeting next month. At the same time, Baker will try to get an agreement on a date for the resumption of the peace talks, which will take place in Rome from now on, and will look into the possibility of speeding up the talks. [passage omitted]

### New MK on Resumption of Peace Talks

*TA1407161792 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Telephone interview with Labor Knesset Member Efrayim Sne, who is "scheduled to play a key role in the peace talks, upon their resumption," by Goni Mardor and Re'udor Benziman—live]

[Text] [Benziman] First of all, congratulations on your new job as Knesset member [MK].

[Sne] Thank you very much.

[Benziman] How do you interpret the change of tone in the Palestinian reaction to Rabin's Knesset speech? Yesterday their reaction was positive and conciliatory, while today it was negative and aggressive.

[Sne] Some of them may have decided to launch the negotiations through declarations in the media and rigid opening positions. I think it is the result of a misunderstanding.

[Mardor] They say they do not want to conduct the negotiations through the media. Faysal al-Husayni said: They know my phone number in Jerusalem.

[Sne] That is not the point. Their reactions show they are trying to extract from the future negotiations something that is clearly not there to begin with. In our election campaign

we promised to implement a five-year interim arrangement in the territories. We did not talk about territorial concessions or a permanent arrangement; we made that perfectly clear. What we intend to discuss seriously and as soon as possible is only what we promised.

[Benziman] How will you go about it? What formal or informal moves will begin now?

[Sne] Look, there is the Madrid process, which involves bilateral talks and multilateral talks. As far as is known and as we have stated, the new government will not alter this basic structure. The talks may resume at the end of the summer; that is the formal aspect. What will change, from Israel's side, is the willingness to reach an agreement as soon as possible. Even before the establishment of the government, the prime minister stated that the talks would be continuous and would not adjourn for long intervals as has been the case so far.

[Benziman] The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Rome, and you said it will be at the end of summer. In other words, two months will be wasted out of the six to nine months in which Yitzhaq Rabin promised to set up the autonomy.

[Sne] I am not sure it will be exactly two months. There is no exact date yet, but one may be set when Secretary Baker arrives. In any event, time will not be wasted if the other side starts getting ready and treating the matter seriously. They should refer to our commitments and nothing beyond that, because we do not have a mandate from the voters for anything beyond what we promised. We have their full mandate, but only for a very specific issue: an interim arrangement based on autonomy. Anybody wanting to discuss that with us had better start getting ready and drafting his papers. If they do so, we will save time.

[Mardor] In his speech yesterday Yitzhaq Rabin addressed a call to the leaders of the Arab countries. He said he could travel to their capitals or they could come to Jerusalem. Do you think anything practical will come out of it?

[Sne] The prime minister's call should elicit a response; his speech was made of lyrics and music. Men with any brains should be impressed with the open-minded, serious, and businesslike approach reflected in his words. At this point, allow me to quote my own remarks in yesterday's debate in the Knesset: Those who fail to assess correctly the seriousness of our intentions might miss their last opportunity.

[Benziman] In other words, you are using the occasion to tell al-Husayni that he should be the one to pick up the phone.

[Sne] I suppose Mr. al-Husayni and his friends got the message contained in the prime minister's speech, which was: If you want to talk seriously about what we pledged to do, the door is open; so, do come quickly.

That was the message, and it should be emphasized. We are talking about a very concrete issue; it is neither abstract nor a formula. Land for peace is a formula, but we are talking about an arrangement, a very practical arrangement with very practical repercussions on daily life. The prime minister told them: You have not experienced even one good day in your entire life. An interim arrangement is not an abstract matter, but something that will immediately affect their lives.

## Rabin—Defense Budget Will Not Be Increased

*TA1407165092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The prime minister and defense minister held his first meeting with the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] General Staff this afternoon. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq, the chief of staff, congratulated Mr. Rabin. Addressing the General Staff officers, Yitzhaq Rabin explained that he had assumed the two posts due to the sensitivity of, and the link between, the military and the political spheres during the peace process.

Earlier the defense minister met with Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri and ministry directors. He promised that the defense budget would not suffer, although it would not be increased either. Rabin added that the defense industries would no longer be able to rely solely on military products and that they would have to continue converting to civil production. Rabin noted that at present he sees no room for increasing the defense industries' allocation from the defense budget.

## Rabin Not To View al-Husayni as Delegation Head

*TA1507101692 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Jul 92 pp 1, 8*

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has decided not to view Faysal al-Husayni as the leader of the Palestinian delegation, and he will maintain the Madrid format under which al-Husayni held the status of adviser to the delegation without Israel's recognizing that status, Israeli sources said. Therefore, Rabin does not plan to invite al-Husayni to a meeting, not even as part of a joint delegation with Jordan. Rabin will regard Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi from Gaza as head of the delegation, the sources said.

Sources in the territories supporting Jordan told our correspondent that the chances are good that Jordan will respond to Rabin's invitation to a meeting, but only after Rome. Progress in the Rome talks will create a more comfortable atmosphere for a Jordanian gesture. The question is whether the Palestinians will agree to it, and on that there will be clarifications with the PLO. [passage omitted]

### New Houses in West Bank Banned Without Permit

*TA1507110492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Samaria Regional Council Chairman Beni Katzover says that the construction halt is already felt in Samaria. In an interview with Qol Yisra'el this morning, Katzover said that construction companies supplying Samaria settlements with mobile homes have been ordered not to supply the ordered mobile homes without a special permit.

Meretz Knesset Members [MK's] Dedi Zucker and Binyamin Temkin said that yesterday, just as the Construction and Housing Ministry was changing hands, mobile homes were moved to the Shilo and 'Ateret settlements. According to them, an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] officer, who tried to prevent the trucks from moving on, found that the truckers had appropriate permits from the Construction and Housing Ministry. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that the two Meretz MK's asked new Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer to check whether the affair was a last-minute act, and whether any additional convoys had similar permits. They demanded that the minister revoke the permits, if any had indeed been granted.

### New Housing Minister Vows To Change Priorities

*TA1407181992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] At the ceremony to hand over the Construction and Housing Ministry to Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, Ari'el Sharon stated: We drew a new map of Israel, and that map cannot be changed.

[Begin Sharon recording] There is no danger of my achievements going down the drain. They were sweeping and voluminous. They may be slowed down, but they cannot be canceled. [end recording]

Ben-Eli'ezer promised to alter the ministry's priorities and do more in low-income neighborhoods and in development towns. As for the development of settlements in the territories in the future, the new minister said he must thoroughly study the issue. [passage omitted]

### Unrest in Nablus as IDF Blockades University

*TA1507043492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] There were disturbances in Nablus last night after a Border Police force captured a young man suspected of terrorist activities near al-Najah University. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman says he was carrying a gun.

Following the incident, about 200 students blocked themselves in the university, and there was rioting in nearby neighborhoods. Large IDF forces arrived at the scene and ordered all the students to come out and be searched. The Army says a large number of wanted men had entered the university building while elections were being held for the student union. The elections were won by a list identified with the PLO's Fatah group.

Palestinian leaders Faysal al-Husayni and Sa'ib 'Urayqat left East Jerusalem for Nabulus last night to calm the situation. The Army this morning imposed a curfew on Nabulus and four refugee camp around Nabulus to prevent further disturbances. Al-Husayni and 'Urayqat are now conducting negotiations with the Civil Administration in order to stop the blockade at the university and allow food and water to be brought into the campus.

At the Balatah refugee camp, a resident was shot and wounded by Army gunfire. The IDF spokesmen say the man tried to flee when soldiers called on him to halt. In Ramallah, a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an IDF patrol. No one was injured in that incident.

### General Describes Standoff

*TA1507080692 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0630 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Telephone interview with Major General Dani Yatom, the Central Command commander, by Gay Zohar—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good morning, Brigadier General Dani Yatom, commander of the Central Command.

[Yatom] Good morning to you.

[Zohar] What is happening in Nabulus right now?

[Yatom] Nabulus is quiet. Most of the city is under curfew in the wake of the disturbances in various parts of the city last night. These came in the form of stone throwing, tire burning, and possibly even a case in which one of our soldiers was shot at. To calm the tempers and ensure order, I decided to impose curfews on most sections of the city.

[Zohar] How extensive is the curfew?

[Yatom] With the exception of a few quarters, most of the city is under curfew. At the al-Najah university, which is the focus of the recent events, everyone is allowed to come out unhindered. The task of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops on the site is merely to check those they deem suspicious, as the purpose is to capture the wanted men whom we know to be inside the university.

[Zohar] Is the Nabulus university in fact under a blockade?

[Yatom] There is definitely no blockade on the university. The IDF force is deployed in the area of the university, but it has not entered the university; not even one soldier has entered since the events around the university began. People inside the university know perfectly well that they can come out absolutely freely. We do not intend to check everyone, but we reserve the right—which is perhaps our duty—to check those who seem suspicious.

[Zohar] If there are armed suspects inside, why has the IDF force refrained from entering the university?

[Yatom] The force did not enter the university because there are many students—I do not know how many, but there are certainly several hundred—who have apparently nothing to do with either violent activities or terrorism. As things stand now, we will gain nothing by going in and possibly hurting people who are absolutely uninvolved in this affair.

[Zohar] How long will the curfew on Nabulus and the activity around the university continue, Gen. Yatom?

[Yatom] The curfew on Nabulus will continue as long as we think it is needed to ensure quiet and order. The moment we think it can be lifted without the city's turning into a center of violence and disturbances—and I hope it will happen as soon as possible—we will lift the curfew. We will remain in every spot where our presence is needed. I do not think any of the local residents in Nabulus has a right to tell the various IDF forces where they should be deployed. The IDF troops will remain in the area of the university as long as needed, even if it is required to do so for a long time.

I would like to remind you that to the best of our knowledge, there are wanted men inside the university, some of whom are armed, some of whom, to the best of our knowledge, have been involved in terrorist activities, acts of violence, and attacks on local Arab residents and IDF soldiers. Therefore, we will continue this unremitting effort until we capture these and other terrorists.

[Zohar] We thank you very much, Gen. Dani Yatom.

[Yatom] Thank you and good-bye.

## Nabulus Declared Closed; Media Banned

*TA1507082292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has declared Nabulus a closed military zone, barring media from covering the al- Najah University events. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that a representative for the IDF spokesman in the Central Command has categorically rejected the allegation of Shahir Sa'd, secretary general of the West Bank Trade Unions Federation, that an IDF soldier struck him in the face this morning, wounding him. [passage omitted covered in referent item]

It has been learned that the people barricading themselves inside the university have brought in women and children, and they now claim there are about 2,500 people inside.

## Arab Notable on Nablus Events

*TA1507100192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0705 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Telephone interview with Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, chairman of al- Tayyibah-based Academics Association, by Dalya Ya'iri; on the daily "It Is All Talk" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Ya'iri] Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, chairman of the Academics Association based in al-Tayyibah, who is close to the Palestinian circles in the territories, is on the line. Good morning.

[Al-Tibi] Good morning.

[Ya'iri] Let us first address the occurrences in Nabulus. The people who have barricaded themselves in have undoubtedly taken the move with the knowledge of the Palestinian leadership. What is your explanation of this event at a time when new developments are imminent?

[Al-Tibi] In my opinion, the Palestinians are not [words indistinct] Rabin. Elections were held there yesterday, so it was natural for thousands of students to be on premises. Someone—apparently one of the local commanders—decided to try to detain wanted people inside the university. This is unacceptable. As Faysal [al-Husayni] has said, wanted people can be detained elsewhere, it does not have to be inside the university. Therefore, it was that decision of the local commanders that embarrassed Rabin, because the Palestinians did not intend to put Rabin to a test. The prime minister and defense minister should order the local commanders to ease off the pressure on Nabulus, to ease off the pressure on the university. They always search for wanted men, but surrounding a university to do that is absolutely unacceptable. The decision should be revoked at once and the encirclement called off.

[Ya'iri] What does the waning of the initial enthusiasm that followed Rabin's speech mean?

[Al-Tibi] I would not say there was enthusiasm, Dalya; they merely said Rabin's speech is important, and it is. It included positive elements, as well as some negative elements as far as the Palestinians and the Arab world are concerned. For instance, he spoke of the need to hold autonomy negotiations as soon as possible; he spoke of the need to resolve the conflict expeditiously; he spoke of the Palestinians' suffering, saying: You have not experienced one happy moment in all your lives. All these things, which appeal to one's heart, have never been voiced by any former head of government.

However, he was too decisive, and his stand on the issue of Jerusalem was negative: He said Jerusalem is outside negotiations. You do not start negotiations in this way. Also, he did not mention Resolution 242, that is peace for territories. These are the issues on which the government is supposed to base its stands, which are supposed to be part of its guidelines.

However, this is a new era, particularly for the Palestinians; the music is different, and the content is also slightly different. He invited all the Arab state heads to come, but he forgot the true Palestinian leadership—and that was not accidental. In our opinion, this is the flaw of his speech. He would have done well to have mentioned the Palestinian leadership. Look, I do not expect Rabin to declare tomorrow that he wants to meet with 'Arafat, but he does know that the only real, legitimate leadership of Palestinians both in the territories and abroad is the PLO. The PLO should be taken into consideration, because without the PLO even the current process, the Madrid process, would not have taken place. The body pulling the strings behind the scenes of the political process is the PLO alone. Therefore, Mr. Rabin will do well to think about it.

[Ya'iri] Let us now look at what goes on in Israel. As we have seen, Arab parties supported and intend to go on supporting this government, and yet there are divergent attitudes among members of the Israeli Arab community. Why?

[Al-Tibi] By the way, going back to what I said before, recently I have been to Egypt, where they expressed joy at the removal of Shamir from the political arena. They were glad to welcome the new Rabin. Two weeks ago they said that with [Meretz Knesset Member Yosi] Sarid to his left, this would be a new Rabin, but today it is being said that the Rabin government is an unknown quantity. We will wait and see. Look at what has happened at the al-Najah University; I hope it is a passing thing. [passage omitted]

[Ya'iri] Do you believe the Arab parties will vote with the government in the future?

[Al-Tibi] This government will be judged by its deeds and its ways. The Arab parties have showered incredible advantages on this government. [passage omitted] Rabin could not have been prime minister without the eight or nine seats he got from the Arab sector. Therefore, we appeal to Rabin: Remember that you are there thanks to our votes, not merely those of the Jewish electorate. This time he received more Arab votes than on any past occasion, and for that reason, the Arab population is now asking for genuine integration into Israeli life. First of all, we want the bureau of the prime minister's Arab affairs adviser to be abolished. We want the jobs of....

[Ya'iri, interrupting] Mr. Ahmad Tibi, we will discuss the Arab sector, but right now we have to air a news flash, so we will say good-bye to you. Thank you very much.

[Al-Tibi] Thank you.

## 'Millions' in Arms Purchased From East Europe

*TA1407144392 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Jul 92 p A1*

[Report by Aluf Ben]

[Excerpts] The defense establishment purchased East European military equipment worth millions of dollars over the past year. The equipment was bought in three former communist countries, and the Defense Ministry is examining additional sources.

The main purpose of the East European procurement was to obtain spare parts for Soviet weapon systems, tanks, and vehicles used by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces]. The Defense Ministry judges that the direct purchase from former communist countries has considerably reduced the outlay on equipment. [passage omitted]

The procurement in East Europe is conducted through the Defense Ministry delegation in Paris headed by Reserves Brigadier General Re'uven Hershko, with the aid of Israeli embassies in East Europe. The purchasing is financed with the defense establishment's uncommitted foreign currency budget.

Last month, Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri visited Czechoslovakia at the head of a defense delegation. In the course of the visit 'Ivri, a former Air Force commander, flew a MiG-29, the most advanced fighter aircraft used by the Czechoslovak Air Force. The flight lasted about 45 minutes.

The plane's performance surprised 'Ivri. "This is a modern aircraft whose performance matches that of F-15's and F-16's," 'Ivri told the Defense Ministry personnel publication. "One of its features is the capability to make a blind landing in any weather."

"This visit to an East European country that has modern equipment was very impressive," the director general added. "I met with highly qualified professionals, who appreciate their equipment and know how to use it." 'Ivri was favorably impressed by the standards of equipment maintenance in the Czechoslovak Air Force. "I realized that East European equipment can be used more efficiently than is done in Middle East countries."

The defense industries hope that the East European markets will be opened to large-scale Israeli weapon exports. The disintegration of former communist countries and the modification of European borders will bring about national armies whose outdated equipment will have to be replaced.

The Defense Ministry's Defense Sales Department has recently appointed an official in charge of sales to East Europe. Israel Aircraft Industries has developed an upgrading plan for the MiG-21 and is now trying to sell it to air forces in the former East Bloc, which still have many such planes.

### Buwayz Rejects Baker's Offer To Meet for Talks

*NC1507130092 Paris AFP in English 1250 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Beirut, July 15 (AFP) - Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz on Wednesday rejected U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's offer to meet for peace talks outside Lebanon.

Baker returns to the Middle East on Sunday to meet Arab and Israeli officials involved in the Middle East peace process and plans stops in Israel, Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

### Al-Sulh Returns From Visit to Damascus 11 Jul

*NC1107192692 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh returned to Beirut this evening after a visit to Damascus, during which he met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He also met with other high-ranking Syrian officials to discuss developments in Lebanon, especially in the south and the efforts the Lebanese authorities are making to complete the implementation of the al-Ta'if Accord.

### President al-Hirawi Returns From Damascus Talks

*NC1307185892*

[Editorial Report] Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1615 GMT on 13 July carries a report about President Ilyas al-Hirawi's return to Beirut following his talks in Damascus.

The radio states: "The elections issue was discussed in detail today at a Lebanese-Syrian summit in Damascus. The meeting concluded this afternoon, and President Ilyas al-Hirawi returned to Beirut this evening. According to official Syrian sources, the talks between Presidents al-Hirawi and Hafiz al-Asad were designed to coordinate views on the peace talks with Israel."

The Voice of Lebanon continues: "Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' participated in the talks. The discussions focused on the future of the peace conference in light of regional developments and the need to consolidate Arab solidarity at this critical stage. Both sides reasserted the need for brotherly bilateral cooperation in various fields and implementing the al-Ta'if Accord. They also reiterated Lebanon's right to liberate the south through implementing UN Security Council Resolution 425."

The radio adds: "This afternoon, Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri traveled to Damascus."

### Buwayz Returns From United Arab Emirates 10 Jul

*NC1107044792 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Jul 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, who returned from a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] and Dubayy, today conveyed a verbal message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan. On emerging from the Presidential Palace, Buwayz said that he will hold a news conference at the Foreign Ministry tomorrow to talk about the visit and its results.

### Buwayz Cited on Parliamentary Elections

*NC1307135792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1107 GMT 13 Jul 92*

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA)—Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz appealed to Egypt and President Husni Mubarak to participate in the process of rebuilding Lebanon with the expertise and resources that Egypt possesses.

In an interview with AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I published today, Buwayz explained that the parliamentary elections are a political issue and have nothing to do with the security situation. He said that everyone wants the elections to take place, but there are differences regarding timing and some procedural details.

He affirmed that the security situation in Lebanon is stable. In fact, he said, the situation in Beirut is much better than in a number of European and Latin American capitals. Buwayz denied that there is a special U.S. position on the Lebanese elections.

The Lebanese foreign minister affirmed that Syria is abiding by the al-Ta'if agreement, explaining that the withdrawal of Syrian forces in Lebanon will take place on schedule in September.

Regarding Lebanese-Iranian relations, he said that Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati's visit to Beirut established a new pattern in the official and diplomatic relations between the two countries. In the past, Iran dealt directly with certain groups in Lebanon, completely disregarding the state.

Regarding the success of Labor Party leader Yitzhaq Rabin in the Israeli elections, the foreign minister said it is not correct to say that the Labor Party's coming to power means that peace will be achieved quickly.

Asked what happens if the Middle East peace negotiations demanded that concessions be made, specifically exchanging water for peace, Buwayz said: We will tell them that Lebanon's waters are insufficient to meet our needs, so how can we give others something we do not have?

Asked about Israel's pumping of water from Lebanon, he said that much has been said about this issue. We made three official requests to the chief UN observer in Lebanon to look into this matter. He went and came back and every time told us that his team had discovered

nothing to indicate that Israel has extended underground pipelines from Lebanese territory.

Asked what new things the Rashid al-Sulh government is undertaking, he said that the government is committed to completing all the reforms contained in the al-Ta'if agreement. It is also working to consolidate security and stability and spread legitimate forces over Lebanese territory. It is now drawing a plan for the return of the displaced.

He added that Lebanon last year accomplished a large part of the country's rehabilitation on all levels. We need about $5 billion to speed up the process of reconstruction.

### Information Minister Samahah Visits Paris 11 Jul

#### Holds Talks With Officials

*NC1107095392 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] Information Minister Michel Samahah concluded his official visit to Paris, at the French Government's invitation. He held talks with French officials about information, communications, culture, and francophone issues. Samahah and his accompanying delegation are expected in Beirut today.

Minister Samahah met in Paris with the minister delegate for francophone affairs, minister delegate for communications, the Foreign Ministry secretary general, and radio and television officials. [passage omitted]

#### Returns With Delegation

*NC1107162992 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] Information Minister Michel Samahah, Information Ministry Director General Ayyub Humayyid, and NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY Director Rafiq Shilalah returned to Beirut from Paris this afternoon. [passage omitted]

#### Denies Discussing Elections

*NC1107194192 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Information Minister Michel Samahah denied that he discussed the subject of Lebanese parliamentary elections with French officials.

Samahah returned to Beirut today after a visit to France, during which he and French officials agreed on an executive work program to be implemented immediately. Under the program, France will offer assistance in the fields of technology and programming to revitalize the Ministry of Information and the radio and television establishments.

### PLO Urges Government To Continue Talks

*NC0907201792 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 92*

[Text] The PLO's political leadership in Lebanon rejected resettlement and compensation as a means of resolving the Palestinian problem and expressed commitment to the right of the Palestinians to return to their land and establish an independent state. The Palestinian leadership issued a statement calling on the Lebanese Government to continue its talks with the PLO concerning the position of the Palestinians in Lebanon.

### Iranian Envoy, Amal Leader Discuss Regional Issues

*LD0807140792 Tehran IRNA in English 0749 GMT 8 Jul 92*

[Text] Beirut, July 8, IRNA—Iran's Charge d'Affaires here Homayun 'Alizadeh discussed the situation in Lebanon and different regional issues with leader of the 'Amal' movement Nabih Birri here Tuesday [7 Jul]. Among other topics, the two also discussed the need for unity between Lebanon's National and Progressive Islamic Forces.

### Commentary Views Rabin's Peace Stance

*NC1507094292 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Commentary: "A Call to War"]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful: Fifteen years after Menachim Begin's invitation to Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat to visit Jerusalem to discuss the means of reaching a settlement, Yitzhaq Rabin is today making a similar invitation, saying that he is eager to establish peace with Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. He has also pledged to proceed forward with the issue of autonomy for the Palestinians.

No one knows what Rabin wants from this invitation. No one knows what Rabin's concept of autonomy is or his intentions vis-a-vis the questions of the settlements and withdrawal from the territories. But Rabin says that peace is important and great, and he wants to discuss it with the leaders of Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan, either in Jerusalem or in these three countries' capitals.

The only thing that is clear so far is that the U.S. Administration is highly appreciative of the new course in the Zionist policy, which Rabin is pledging to revive to replace the extremist slogans and static declarations Yitzhaq Shamir had perfected and adhered to. Through its Secretary of State James Baker, Washington welcomed the idea of the invitation. It appears that we face a coordinated U.S.-Israeli idea, which is the stage of complete identity of U.S. and Israeli views. It is the stage of working for peace that both parties want according to their own criteria and conditions.

Too much argument and analysis is futile at a time when the U.S.- Zionist endeavor to breach the Arab wall is intensifying. Not all three Arab leaders will accept Rabin's invitation, but at least one of them will. He is the same one about whom reports of correspondence with Rabin in preparation for a meeting were leaked recently. King Husayn therefore is the leader most likely to accept Rabin's invitation. This is known to the Americans, who have given the king a free hand in dealing with the Iraqi issue as he sees fit in return for dealing with the Palestinian issue as the Americans see fit. This is the second stage in the ill-fated Camp David accord. From the time this accord was concluded, there has been talk that the second stage or phase in the bilateral settlements would be between Israel and Jordan.

The only difference was the fact that Begin's invitation to al-Sadat in 1977 caused so much furor that it hounded al-Sadat until his assassination and even posthumously. But today we are facing interesting remarks. There are many positive points in Rabin's speech from the official Palestinian and Jordanian viewpoints. No one is monitoring the dangers posed by such an invitation and its possible negative effects on the situation. Differences will be the first observation that will be recorded. If this does happen, we should expect from now on separate negotiations with the enemy; that is, each party will negotiate on its own and in accordance with its own interests and needs. Progress will be made in some negotiations while others will stall to the point of stagnation. Arab differences will likely become exacerbated by Rabin's policy to the extent that inter-Arab and Arab-Israeli wars will erupt.

Leaving speculation aside, we are monitoring the phenomenon of the constant clashes between the Islamic movement Hamas and the Fatah Movement in the occupied territories. These clashes are nourished by the differences in positions, which were helped by Yitzhaq Rabin's statements. Fatah acts as if settlement is imminent and therefore works to control the situation on the ground and to give one piece of proof after the other that it is serious about eliminating any extremist signs that are opposed to the majority in preparation for a compromise with Rabin since he has removed Israeli extremism as represented by Shamir, as it is now claimed.

### Fatah Official's Car Bombed

*NC1507095892 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0944 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon just reported that a device exploded in the car of Fatah official Lieutenant Colonel Abu-Nidal al-Asmar when its engine was switched on. The incident occurred at 1220 today while the car was parked in al-Dalla'ah Street near al-Dandashly building in Sidon. One person suffered burns, but it is not known yet whether Lt. Col. al-Asmar was inside the car when the explosion occurred.

### Official Escapes Death

*NC1507131292 Paris AFP in English 1233 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, July 15 (AFP)—A PLO official narrowly escaped death on Wednesday when a bomb destroyed his car moments after he parked it in a street here, security sources said.

The attack on Abu-Nidal al-Asmar was the latest in a series against officials from Yasir 'Arafat's main Fatah group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in southern Lebanon.

Asmar rejoined Fatah after defecting from Abu-Nidal's radical Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) two years ago.

Fatah has blamed the spate of attacks on either the FRC or the Israeli intelligence service Mosad.

## Israelis Continue Operations in South

### Deserted Army Barracks Shelled

*NC1407165092 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Israeli occupation troops at 1630 today shelled the outskirts of a deserted Lebanese Army barracks in al-Nabatiyah, the forests of 'Ali al-Tahir, and upper al-Nabatiyah heights with phosphorous shells from occupation posts in al-Dabshah and 'Ali al- Tahir. Fire broke out in the region as a result. Lebanese Civil Defense teams rushed to the scene and put out the fires in the upper al-Nabatiyah heights, but they could not reach the higher areas, which are near Israeli positions.

Elsewhere, four explosions occurred at beach resorts in al-Qalamun, northern Lebanon. Guests staying at the beach chalets along the coast of al-Qalamun woke up in panic today when they heard the four explosions in their resorts.

### Resistance Ambushes Patrol

*NC1507064092 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The Islamic Resistance fighters staged a new jihad operation against the usurping Zionists. One of their units detonated an explosive device when an Israeli foot patrol was crossing the 'Ali al-Tahir road yesterday afternoon. A number of Zionist soldiers were injured.

The operation was staged after the al-Nabatiyah area came under Zionist artillery shelling; phosphorous shells were used. Several fires broke out. The civil defense teams in the region extinguished most of them but could not extinguish the others as they were near the positions of the usurping enemy.

The occupation forces resumed their attacks yesterday afternoon on the villages bordering the occupied strip. Jarju' and 'Ayn Bu Siwar were shelled. The outskirts of al-Nabatiyah and the eastern part of al-Ta'mir quarter in

the town came under similar shelling from the usurping enemy position in al-Zaffatah.

### One Killed in Clash With SLA

*NC1507084392 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] A clash occurred at dawn today between an armed group and South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldiers near al-Qantarah. According to SLA sources, one fundamentalist was killed. The SLA then used mortars and tanks to rake the area.

### Residents in South To Stage Demonstration

*NC1507081192 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] There is a strike in the border area today. The area's inhabitants will stage demonstrations to express their rejection of the election bill, especially setting up polling stations outside the border area for the area's inhabitants.

The crossings between the border area and other areas will be closed today.

### Cabinet Limits Spending, Adopts Economic Measures

*NC1507064692 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Cabinet adopted a number of measures today to remedy the economic situation. Most importantly, the Cabinet placed a ceiling on total public spending during the current year. It is not to exceed 1.93 trillion Lebanese pounds, including the interest on public debts and treasury bonds. The Cabinet also decided to increase revenue to 1.2 trillion Lebanese pounds by enhancing the collection of levies; raising the value of the dollar for customs purposes to 800 Lebanese pounds for all commodities; and raising the tax on gasoline to 1,000 Lebanese pounds per 20 liters. The Cabinet placed a ceiling on Treasury borrowing from the Bank of Lebanon so that it does not exceed 9 percent of total public spending scheduled for the second half of 1992 and froze the amount of internal public debts owed to the Bank of Lebanon. A committee was established—chaired by the deputy prime minister and including the ministers of telecommunications, economy, and finance—to prepare a study about the partial or complete privatization of the electricity sector, airports, casinos, telephone system, tobacco industry, and oil refineries. The Cabinet announced that it will discuss the possible establishment of a fund to boost the national currency.

### Patriarch Calls For Postponing Elections

*NC1407170392 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Patriarch Sfayr hinted there might be popular rejectionist action if the Chamber of Deputies endorses the election bill. Sfayr told AFP that the time is not right for holding elections and said boycott and demonstration are democratic methods through which the people express their will.

Answering a question, Patriarch Sfayr stated: It is not my job to call for boycotting the elections the al-Sulh government seeks to hold this summer. He called for postponing them because they cannot be free in the presence of foreign armies in Lebanon.

### New Phalangist Party Secretary General Named

*NC1307183092 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] Lawyer Karim Paqraduni is the new secretary general of the Phalangist Party. Phalangist Party leader Dr. George Sa'adah named Paqraduni to the post, previously held by Roger Dib. The new Phalangist Party Political Bureau, holding its first meeting today at the party's summer headquarters, unanimously approved the nomination. [passage omitted]

### • Voters by District, Religion Published

*92AE0490A Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 19 Jun 92 p 6*

[Article: "Final List of Voter Numbers, Distributed by Area and Sect; 2,385,465 Voters in All of Lebanon"]

[Text] AL-SAFIR has obtained the full list of the numbers of voters in all districts and governorates, as prepared by the Ministry of Interior in cooperation with the country's mayors, mukhtars, and vital statistics officers.

Following is the full distribution of the numbers of voters by electoral district and according to their division over the following sects: Sunni, Shi'ite, Druze, Alawite, Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Greek Catholic, Protestant, Latin Catholic, Armenian Orthodox, Armenian Catholic, Armenian Protestant, Syrian (Syriac) Orthodox, Syrian Catholic, Assyrian Orthodox (Nestorian), Chaldean, Jew, Isma'ili, miscellaneous, and Seventh Day Adventist.

It is to be noted that some sects recognized in Lebanon have had no actual physical presence for a long time. Therefore, they have been disregarded in the following distribution:

| Beirut Governorate | |
|---|---|
| **First Electoral District** | |
| Sunni | 12,622 |
| Shi'ite | 3,624 |
| Druze | 360 |
| Alawite | 159 |
| Maronite | 20,195 |
| Greek Orthodox | 24,714 |
| Greek Catholic | 12,482 |
| Protestant | 621 |
| Latin Catholic | 2,296 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 41,401 |
| Armenian Catholic | 7,888 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 787 |
| Syrian Catholic | 4,573 |
| Chaldean | 1,486 |
| Jew | 5,986 |
| Miscellaneous | 204 |
| **Second Electoral District** | |
| Sunni | 29,718 |
| Shi'ite | 28,888 |
| Druze | 1,273 |
| Alawite | 28 |
| Maronite | 2,562 |
| Greek Orthodox | 1,662 |
| Greek Catholic | 1,409 |
| Protestant | 515 |
| Latin Catholic | 809 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 4,035 |
| Armenian Catholic | 1,010 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 166 |
| Syrian Catholic | 1,064 |
| Chaldean | 307 |
| Jew | 215 |
| Miscellaneous | 1 |
| **Third Electoral District** | |
| Sunni | 86,450 |
| Shi'ite | 9,775 |
| Druze | 2,450 |
| Alawite | 50 |
| Maronite | 3,025 |
| Greek Orthodox | 12,875 |
| Greek Catholic | 2,600 |
| Protestant | 1,650 |
| Latin Catholic | 825 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 1,300 |
| Armenian Catholic | 625 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 3,575 |
| Syrian Catholic | 1,725 |
| Chaldean | 175 |
| Jew | 125 |
| Miscellaneous | 75 |
| **Total** | |
| Sunni | 128,790 |
| Shi'ite | 42,287 |
| Druze | 4,983 |
| Alawite | 237 |
| Maronite | 25,782 |
| Greek Orthodox | 40,252 |
| Greek Catholic | 17,492 |
| Protestant | 2,786 |
| Latin Catholic | 5,030 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 46,726 |
| Armenian Catholic | 9,533 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 4,528 |
| Syrian Catholic | 7,362 |
| Chaldean | 1,968 |
| Jew | 6,326 |
| Miscellaneous | 280 |

| Mount Lebanon Governorate | |
|---|---|
| **Al-Shuf District** | |
| Sunni | 37,632 |
| Shi'ite | 2,882 |
| Druze | 42,195 |
| Maronite | 48,838 |
| Greek Orthodox | 624 |
| Greek Catholic | 12,902 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,057 |
| **'Aley District** | |
| Sunni | 2,738 |
| Shi'ite | 1,212 |
| Druze | 46,100 |
| Maronite | 29,810 |
| Greek Orthodox | 14,906 |
| Greek Catholic | 3,616 |
| Protestant | 190 |
| Latin Catholic | 7 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 961 |
| Armenian Catholic | 277 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 83 |
| Syrian Catholic | 105 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Chaldean | 154 |
| Miscellaneous | 103 |
| **B'abda District** | |
| Sunni | 5,238 |
| Shi'ite | 24,430 |
| Druze | 18,980 |
| Maronite | 50,351 |
| Greek Orthodox | 9,188 |
| Greek Catholic | 5,274 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 54 |
| Armenian Catholic | 59 |
| Chaldean | 154 |
| Miscellaneous | 5,377 |
| **Al-Matn District** | |
| Sunni | 841 |
| Shi'ite | 2,739 |
| Druze | 1,918 |
| Maronite | 68,060 |
| Greek Orthodox | 18,595 |
| Greek Catholic | 10,768 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 19,694 |
| Miscellaneous | 4,420 |
| **Kasrawan District** | |
| Sunni | 230 |
| Shi'ite | 935 |
| Druze | 8 |
| Maronite | 70,827 |
| Greek Orthodox | 1,603 |
| Greek Catholic | 2,006 |
| Protestant | 170 |
| Latin Catholic | 420 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 1,360 |
| Armenian Catholic | 809 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 175 |
| Syrian Catholic | 265 |
| Chaldean | 65 |
| Jew | 4 |
| Miscellaneous | 5 |
| **Jubayl District** | |
| Sunni | 1,324 |
| Shi'ite | 10,511 |
| Maronite | 48,688 |
| Greek Orthodox | 2,245 |
| Greek Catholic | 121 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 890 |
| Miscellaneous | 99 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Total** | |
| Sunni | 48,003 |
| Shi'ite | 42,709 |
| Druze | 109,201 |
| Maronite | 316,574 |
| Greek Orthodox | 47,161 |
| Greek Catholic | 34,687 |
| Protestant | 360 |
| Latin Catholic | 427 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 22,959 |
| Armenian Catholic | 1,145 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 258 |
| Syrian Catholic | 370 |
| Chaldean | 209 |
| Jew | 4 |
| Miscellaneous | 11,061 |

## Al-Shamal Governorate

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tripoli (Tarabulus, the City)** | |
| Sunni | 101,717 |
| Shi'ite | 374 |
| Druze | 6 |
| Alawite | 950 |
| Maronite | 4,666 |
| Greek Orthodox | 11,824 |
| Greek Catholic | 930 |
| Protestant | 457 |
| Latin Catholic | 422 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 1,965 |
| Armenian Catholic | 250 |
| Armenian Protestant | 144 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 285 |
| Syrian Catholic | 233 |
| Assyrian Orthodox (Nestorian) | Nil |
| Chaldean | 92 |
| Jew | 44 |
| **Tarabulus (Tripoli) District** | |
| Sunni | 38,406 |
| Maronite | 5,186 |
| Greek Orthodox | 5,580 |
| **'Akkar District** | |
| Sunni | 78,111 |
| Shi'ite | 678 |
| Druze | Nil |
| Alawite | 5,449 |
| Maronite | 24,641 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Greek Orthodox | 33,201 |
| Greek Catholic | 958 |
| **Zgharta District** | |
| Sunni | 5,115 |
| Shi'ite | 47 |
| Maronite | 50,249 |
| Greek Orthodox | 2,855 |
| Greek Catholic | 466 |
| **Bsharri District** | |
| Sunni | 34 |
| Shi'ite | 159 |
| Maronite | 41,277 |
| Greek Orthodox | 729 |
| Greek Catholic | 177 |
| Protestant | 12 |
| Latin Catholic | 26 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 46 |
| Armenian Catholic | 8 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 18 |
| Syrian Catholic | 20 |
| Chaldean | 5 |
| Miscellaneous | 7 |
| **Al-Batrun District** | |
| Sunni | 2,202 |
| Shi'ite | 679 |
| Maronite | 37,879 |
| Greek Orthodox | 9,006 |
| Greek Catholic | 1,917 |
| Miscellaneous | 585 |
| **Al-Kurah District** | |
| Sunni | 5,216 |
| Shiite | 356 |
| Druze | 4 |
| Alawite | 45 |
| Maronite | 9,794 |
| Greek Orthodox | 22,559 |
| Greek Catholic | 400 |
| Protestant | 169 |
| Latin Catholic | 102 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 68 |
| Armenian Catholic | 24 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 28 |
| Syrian Catholic | 14 |
| Chaldean | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 8 |
| **Total** | |
| Sunni | 231,501 |
| Shiite | 2,293 |
| Druze | 10 |
| Alawite | 14,544 |
| Maronite | 173,352 |
| Greek Orthodox | 96,764 |
| Greek Catholic | 4,945 |
| Protestant | 638 |
| Latin Catholic | 562 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 2,079 |
| Armenian Catholic | 392 |
| Armenian Protestant | 144 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 331 |
| Syrian Catholic | 271 |
| Chaldean | 98 |
| Jew | 44 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,062 |

## Al-Biqa' Governorate

| | |
|---|---|
| **Zahlah District** | |
| Sunni | 21,218 |
| Shiite | 14,753 |
| Druze | 620 |
| Maronite | 22,659 |
| Greek Orthodox | 14,230 |
| Greek Catholic | 28,290 |
| Protestant | 1,480 |
| Latin Catholic | 275 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 8,877 |
| Armenian Catholic | 1,916 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 3,380 |
| Syrian Catholic | 732 |
| Chaldean | 302 |
| Jew | 71 |
| Miscellaneous | 183 |
| **Al-Biqa' al-Gharbi and Rashayya District** | |
| Sunni | 37,451 |
| Shiite | 11,386 |
| Druze | 16,792 |
| Maronite | 8,051 |
| Greek Orthodox | 9,704 |
| Greek Catholic | 9,488 |
| Protestant | 335 |
| Miscellaneous | 151 |
| **Ba'labakk and al-Hirmil District** | |
| Sunni | 18,687 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Shiite | 116,673 |
| Alawite | 98 |
| Maronite | 12,120 |
| Greek Orthodox | 2,262 |
| Greek Catholic | 12,391 |
| Miscellaneous | 238 |
| **Total** | |
| Sunni | 77,356 |
| Shiite | 142,812 |
| Druze | 12,412 |
| Alawite | 98 |
| Maronite | 42,830 |
| Greek Orthodox | 26,196 |
| Greek Catholic | 50,169 |
| Protestant | 1,815 |
| Latin Catholic | 275 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 8,877 |
| Armenian Catholic | 1,916 |
| Syrian Orthodox | 3,380 |
| Syrian Catholic | 732 |
| Chaldean | 302 |
| Jew | 71 |
| Miscellaneous | 572 |

## Al-Janub and Al-Nabatiyah Governorates

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sidon (Sayda, the City)** | |
| Sunni | 32,530 |
| Shiite | 3,863 |
| TrMaronite | 1,779 |
| Greek Orthodox | 272 |
| Greek Catholic | 1,265 |
| Protestant | 408 |
| **Sayda District** | |
| Sunni | 995 |
| Shiite | 45,348 |
| Maronite | 8,650 |
| Greek Orthodox | 207 |
| Greek Catholic | 11,455 |
| Protestant | 407 |

### Jazzin District

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunni | 782 |
| Shiite | 3,033 |
| Druze | 307 |
| Maronite | 31,942 |
| Greek Catholic | 7,402 |
| Miscellaneous | 110 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sur (Tyre) District** | |
| Sunni | 7,539 |
| Shiite | 82,155 |
| Maronite | 2,694 |
| Greek Orthodox | 49 |
| Greek Catholic | 5,218 |
| Protestant | 391 |
| Latin Catholic | 100 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 1,909 |
| Armenian Catholic | 8 |
| Miscellaneous | 9 |
| **Al-Nabatiyah District** | |
| Sunni | 398 |
| Shiite | 76,292 |
| Maronite | 3,209 |
| Greek Orthodox | 44 |
| Greek Catholic | 1,057 |
| **Bint Jubayl District** | |
| Shiite | 65,688 |
| Maronite | 4,126 |
| Greek Catholic | 2,328 |
| **Marj 'Uyun-Hasbayya District** | |
| Sunni | 15,831 |
| Shiite | 51,761 |
| Druze | 10,473 |
| Maronite | 3,573 |
| Greek Orthodox | 11,934 |
| Greek Catholic | 3,395 |
| Protestant | 1,532 |
| Latin Catholic | 129 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 93 |
| Armenian Catholic | 60 |
| Syrian Catholic | 8 |
| **Total** | |
| Sunni | 58,073 |
| Shiite | 328,162 |
| Druze | 10,780 |
| Maronite | 57,973 |
| Greek Orthodox | 12,506 |
| Greek Catholic | 32,320 |
| Protestant | 2,778 |
| Latin Catholic | 229 |
| Armenian Orthodox | 2,004 |
| Armenian Catholic | 68 |
| Syrian Catholic | 8 |
| Miscellaneous | 11 |

## Council of Ministers Holds Meeting 14 July

### Duties, Economy, Services Viewed

*JN1407152392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a meeting at 1100 today under Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi. At the beginning of the meeting, al-Zu'bi explained the basic duties of the government as derived from the political and economic policy, which has been drawn up and defined by President Hafiz al-Asad since the Corrective Movement was launched in 1970. The prime minister stressed that the aim of the government is to epitomize and translate the sound directives, which the president made during the new cabinet's first meeting, into comprehensive plans and executive programs.

Al-Zu'bi added: We should make sure that the economic and administrative performance in all sectors meets the advanced means required by these plans and programs so that ministries, institutions, departments, and work and production sites can raise to the level of confidence, which the leader of this steadfast homeland, President Hafiz al-Asad, has in the government, and promote the rate of economic growth and services to citizens in all governorates. He also stressed the importance of deepening the sense of responsibility to make sound decisions and strictly follow up the implementation of decisions and measures in all fields.

The Council of Ministers then heard a report on the performance of the Services and Economic Committees. The first meetings of both committees discussed ways of drawing up working plans and studied and assessed the performance of each ministry, institution, and department. They also discussed ways to promote economic performance, administrative organization, and the legislative area in order to meet the needs of the general development in Syria.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' then gave a political briefing on a number of developments in the region and in the Arab and international arenas. The Council of Ministers also reviewed draft decrees and laws on its agenda, as well as topics presented to it and made the appropriate decisions.

### Al-Shar' Comments on Rabin Speech

*JN1407175392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] At 1100 today, the Council of Ministers held a meeting under Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi. [passage omitted]

Afterward, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' gave a political briefing on regional, Arab, and international developments. In his briefing, al-Shar' affirmed that Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad is resolved to look for a just, comprehensive peace in the region based on international law and UN resolutions providing for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's national, legitimate rights.

Al-Shar' reaffirmed Syria's commitment to the peace process which began at the Madrid conference. He explained the immense international and regional efforts that had been exerted to convene this conference and to adopt it unanimously by all concerned parties as an appropriate framework for the establishment of peace in the region. He said that Syria, which opened the door of peace and responded to President Bush's initiative, expects continued commitment by other regional and international parties to this initiative and to continue bilateral peace talks seriously so that the aspired goal of these talks can be achieved as soon as possible and without any obstacles or new, useless calls.

Al-Shar' affirmed that an assessment of the new Israeli prime minister's statement, in which he dealt with international changes and the importance of making peace in the region, reveals that his statement says nothing about pertinent UN Security Council resolutions on the basis of which the Madrid peace conference was convened, nor does it say anything about Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

The foreign minister affirmed that the recent meeting which was held among the foreign ministers of the cordon states on the sidelines of the Arab League Council in Cairo voiced continued Arab commitment to continue the peace process which commenced at the Madrid conference. He explained that a special meeting of the foreign ministers of the cordon states will be held in Syria from 24-25 this month to adopt a unified Arab stand on the peace process during the next stage. He explained that the secretaries general of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Arab Maghreb Union will participate in the meeting. [passage omitted]

### Reaction to Rabin Knesset Address on Peace Noted

*JN1407153292 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: It is everybody's right to express the hope that the departure of the Shamir government will end the deadlock in the peace process. The Likud leader's course was expansionist and his behavior was aggressive. He was in full contradiction concerning the peace process. The world—more than the Arabs—was very strongly shocked by his intransigent stands. For more than 40 years, the Israeli rulers have only practiced aggression, intransigence, and belligerence. So, the Arabs gave up hope of seeing the Zionist entity move toward peace.

It is known that the Arabs accepted the U.S. initiative and responded to its general outlines without having any illusions about its final outcome. The Likud government, which remained in power for 15 years, did not give peace a chance. Its main concern was Judaizing the Arab lands,

building settlements, and committing crimes in the occupied homeland to push the Palestinian people toward collective emigration.

The Arabs have proven to the whole world their belief in peace and their real readiness to achieve a just solution in the Middle East on the basis of international legitimacy resolutions. The new rulers of Israel are called on today to prove their sincere intentions and create a decisive turning point toward peace if they really want peace.

In his address to the Knesset, Rabin repeated the word peace many times and expressed readiness to begin talks immediately. However, he did not note one single time Israel's commitment to implement Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 that were the basis of the U.S. initiative. Rabin spoke about the Palestinians' autonomy that will bypass Shamir's sick ideas, however, he did not go as far as recognizing the Palestinian people's self-determination. Rabin announced that he would not take steps that would distort the peace process, however, he did not pledge to stop settlement completely in the occupied territory and only spoke about security and political settlements. Rabin raised the slogan of security before peace, although it is peace that achieves security and stability and not the opposite. Rabin called for stopping the intifadah without defining the gains which the Palestinians will achieve as a result of this and without saying whether the Israeli Army will withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza. Regarding Jerusalem, Rabin reiterated his predecessor's adherence to Jerusalem as the eternal capital of the Zionist entity.

The Arab parties, led by Syria, announced—even before Rabin's victory in the elections—that they would proceed with the peace process until the end. They also announced that they would exploit all opportunities in this direction. We do not believe that the peace process needs new surprises; it needs serious and responsible Israeli participation and Israeli commitment to international legitimacy resolutions. The U.S. initiative has provided a good ground for real negotiations on all fronts. The Shamir government aborted the talks by abandoning any discussion of the essential issues, particularly the ways to implement Resolutions 242 and 338.

Today, as Rabin talks about Israel's readiness to discuss the essential issues and to achieve a real progress in the peace process, we should reiterate that withdrawal from the occupied territories is the essential issue and that achieving substantial progress depends on Israel's intention to withdraw from all lands occupied in 1967 pursuant to the UN resolutions.

In light of this, the Arabs are not interested in incomplete solutions that will maintain the occupation. They are interested in a firm and comprehensive peace that will restore their usurped lands, provide the Palestinian people with a free and honorable life, and achieve in the entire region stability and the ability to devote its resources in the interest of development and progress.

Peace will become real in the future if Israel really believes in it and if it abandons the schemes of expansion, settlement, and occupation. It is not too much for Israel, which owes its existence to the United Nations, to announce its commitment to the UN principles and resolutions, to respond to the international community's will to end occupation, settlement, and annexation, and to find a just solution to the problem of millions of refugees and displaced people who were removed from their homeland as a result of its expanionist and aggressive policies.

## Joint Committee With Egypt Signs Agreements

*NC1307133292 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic*
*7 Jul 92 p 1*

[Report by Kamil Mursi in Damascus]

[Text] The Egyptian-Syrian higher joint committee will hold its final session today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi and Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi. During the session, the minutes of the committee meetings will be signed and the joint cooperation projects agreed upon will be endorsed. Prime Minister Sidqi and the Egyptian delegation will leave Damascus this evening for Cairo.

The bilateral ministerial meetings were intensified in the past two days and led to several agreements to implement a number of joint projects in various fields.

In the field of industry, an agreement was reached for Egypt to implement a number of major industrial projects in Syria at a preliminary cost of more than $300 million. They include the renovation of the sugar distillery factories; the extraction of soya beans [as published]; the establishment of a factory for the production of starch and glucose; the manufacture of towers connecting electricity lines as well as steam boilers. An agreement in principle was concluded to let Egypt undertake the infrastructure work in a number of major projects. Tenders for these projects will be announced soon.

In the field of industrial commodity exchange, it was agreed that Syria will supply Egypt with unprocessed wool, cotton yarn, tobacco, and tomato paste in exchange for spare parts for equipment needed for a number of factories in Syria. Talks are under way to provide metal pipes needed for the Syrian housing sector in the amount of $40 million.

In the field of trade, the two sides discussed ways to promote trade, increase the volume of barter deals by adding new commodities, and give the private sector freedom and flexibility to conclude deals. A contract to supply Syria with 12,000 tons of rice worth $4 million was signed.

In the field of transport, it was agreed to export to Syria railway equipment worth 1 million dollars. It was also agreed to hold a meeting of the joint maritime company

to take the necessary measures to establish a joint company for land and maritime transport.

In the field of electricity, the executive measures for linking the Egyptian and Syrian electricity networks as well as Egypt's contribution to modernizing the factories manufacturing electric engines were discussed.

In the field of education, it was agreed to increase scholarships and education opportunities for Syrian students and to exchange professor and student delegations between the two countries.

## India

### U.S. Ruling on Abductions Termed 'Inconsistent'

*BK1507081692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The government says the recent U.S. Supreme Court judgment allowing Washington to carry out abductions abroad for trial in U.S. courts is inconsistent with international law. Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha today, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, said this practice has been a part of American jurisprudence over the past century. He said such practice is also not in conformity with the Indian law.

### Inaction on Burmese Border Intrusion Criticized

*BK1507075692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] Government came under severe criticism in the Lok Sabha over the reported intrusion by the Myanmar [Burmese] Army in the Mizoram. Raising the matter during zero hour, Mr. Rabi Ray, Janata Dal, and others said the intruders attacked Indian nationals and the government must respond immediately as to what action has been taken. They also wanted to know whether the matter has been taken up with the Myanmar Government.

The minister of state for home and parliamentary affairs, Mr. M.M. Jacob, informed them that the matter was brought to the center's notice by the state chief minister and the BSF [Border Security Force] was immediately alerted. Not satisfied, almost the entire opposition pressed for immediate statement regarding the situation at the India-Myanmar border. Mr. Jacob, conceding their demand, said a statement will be made possibly by tomorrow after consulting the Ministries of Defense and External Affairs.

### West Convinced of Pakistan Terrorism Support

*BK1507101892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The home minister says India has been successful in convincing the European countries against Pakistan for its encouragement to subversive and terrorist activities in India. Mr. Chavan told the house during question hour that the United States and Britain have been openly criticizing Islamabad for its support to terrorists in India. He said New Delhi is persuading Pakistan through diplomatic efforts to dismantle the training camps in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. He said these efforts have yielded positive results.

Earlier, the minister of state for home, Mr. M.M. Jacob, informed the House that the center has taken up several developmental activities in Jammu and Kashmir to create confidence among people. He said the disinformation campaign by Pakistan has been regularly countered in national and international fora.

### Japanese Model Towns To Be Accessible to Indians

*BK1507094892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The prime minister has assured that the proposed Japanese model towns in the country will be fully accessible to Indian citizens. He informed the Lok Sabha during the question hour today that the proposed township will offer opportunities for both the countries to work together in several areas, including industry, art, and craft. On his recent Japanese visit, Mr. Narasimha Rao said there has been very encouraging response for bilateral collaboration in scientific research. Replying to the main question, the minister of state for industrial development, Mrs. Krishna Sahi, said a feasibility study is now on regarding the setting up of Japanese model towns.

### Discussions on Ayodhya Situation Continue

*BK1407140992 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 13 Jul 92*

[Text] The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, today emphatically assured the Rajya Sabha that the center is fully committed to protect the interests of the minorities. Replying to a day-long discussion on the developments in Ayodhya [temple-mosque issue], he appealed to the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] to treat the delicate issue with utmost care so that tension is defused. He also told the house that the center will approach the national integration council for evolving a consensus on the Ayodhya problem.

Mr. S.B. Chavan regretted that the BJP government is non-committal to its promise concerning the land acquired in the area. He pointed out that the land was acquired for the purpose of tourism, but what is happening now there is contrary to it. He blamed the BJP for trying to exploit religious sentiments for political gains and appealed to them for creating conditions so that a wrong signal is not sent outside. The home minister's reply, however, did not satisfy the National Front, Left and Janata Dal-S parties and the members of these parties staged a walkout.

The Bihar assembly today adopted a resolution to immediately stop the construction activities around the disputed site at Ayodhya. The house also decided to send it to the center for taking effective steps to defuse tension in the country. Moving the resolution during zero hour, the chief minister, Mr. Laluprasad Yadev, said that the new developments in Ayodhya had immediate repercussions in Bihar as communal tension has risen in the state. The resolution was adopted by a voice vote.

The CPI-M [Communist party of India-Marxist] has urged the center to immediately takeover the entire disputed area in Ayodhya to maintain the status quo. In a statement in New Delhi today, the politburo of the party said any further delay on the part of the center in taking over the disputed site would harm national unity and integrity.

The BJP has today warned the center against any hasty action against the Uttar Pradesh government over the Ayodhya issue. Speaking at a demonstration in New Delhi today, the BJP MP Miss Uma Bharati said the UP [Uttar Pradesh] had secured mandate of the people in the state on the issue of completing the Ram temple at Ayodhya. Among others who spoke at the demonstration were Mr. Sikander Bakht, Mr. Madan Lal Khurana and Mr O.P. Kohli.

### Power of Kashmir Legislature Given to President

*BK1407161892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Lok Sabha today passed a bill seeking to confer on the president the powers of the Jammu and Kashmir legislature to make laws for the state. The bill was passed by division with 163 members voting in favor and 61 against after a four-hour debate marked by acrimonious exchanges. Replying to the discussion, the minister of state for home and parliamentary Affairs, Mr. M.M. Jacob, said a 15-member consultative committee of parliament members will be set up to look into all matters relating to the state. He said parliament will have powers to suggest modifications in the rules made by the president.

Mr. Jacob said delegation of powers has become necessary as 11 bills relating to Jammu and Kashmir have to be revalidated before the 18th of this month and parliament may not find time to fulfill this obligation. The bill was strongly opposed by the Janata Dal, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], and Left parties saying that it amounts to taking away powers of parliament. The minister said the measure has been brought only for a limited purpose and the powers to enact laws will go back to state legislature when elected.

### Modernization Move in Steel Industry Noted

*BK1407133792 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Commentary by Rakesh Hari Pathak of PRESS TRUST OF INDIA]

[Text] The Indian steel industry has been put on a fast-growth track, particularly with the government deciding to free this important core sector industry from all licensing, pricing and distribution controls. The government is also contemplating with 20-year-perspective plan for steel which, in a way, would be the guide to growth in this sector. As of now, stress is being given on modernization to bring the Indian steel industry in the front line of steel producing nations. The minister of steel, Mr. Santosh Mohan Dev, has said that the steel industry must become cost and quality conscious so that Indian steel will be globally competitive. Therefore, in the years to come, the emphasis will naturally shift from quantity to quality when the producers will try to suit customer's specifications.

On the strength of modernization and technological upgradation, the eighth five-year plan which commenced from fiscal 1992-93 seeks to raise production to the level where not only domestic demand is met, but exportable surplus is left in the country. The process of modernization of steel industry began in the seventh plan period when substantial investment was made for this purpose. With the liberalization of the economy, a new boost has been given to the inflow of international capital, technology, and capital goods. In the new industrial policy, pig iron, ferroalloys and sponge iron including pelletization have been included in the list of high-priority industries in order to encourage growth. In respect of such industries, there is a provision for automatic approval of investment up to 51 percent foreign equity provided the foreign equity covers the foreign exchange required for import of capital goods.

As part of the modernization program, the government has decided to revamp the oldest steel plant, the Indian Iron and Steel Company, IISCO, in the joint sector. Mr. Santosh Mohan Dev told a meeting of economic editors recently that the government had decided to invite fresh global bids for selecting the joint sector partner for modernization of the IISCO. The bids in the international press would be evaluated by a high-level committee and final decision would be announced within two or three months.

While Durgapur Steel Plant is already under modernization, the government has finalized a global tender for modernization of the Rourkela Steel Plant in the eastern state of Orissa. The modernization of Rourkela steel at a cost of nearly 40 billion rupees entails foreign exchange component of over 7 billion rupees. Starting this year, modernization of this steel plant is expected to be completed by December 1995. With the massive modernization program in the public sector SAIL [Steel Authority of Indian Limited] plants, the production from SAIL units is slated to go up to 15 million tons by the turn of the century from 8.5 million tons now. This would also make the SAIL international competitor, justifying India's glorious past in the steel sector. India is one of the first countries in the world to produce iron and steel by modern process. Endowed with substantial natural resources required for a strong iron and steel industry, India's initial policy measures stressed on substantial buildup of capacities. But the steel sector came in for stagnation during the last decade necessitating upgradation of technologies and capacities.

The private sector steel giant, Tata Iron and Steel Company, TISCO, is also scheduled to complete the modernization phase-III by the end of the eighth plan. As a result, production of finished steel is expected to reach 22.8 million tons by the fiscal 1996-97 from the present level of 14.50 million tons. Demand for steel during the terminal year of eighth plan is projected at 21 million tons.

Not only steel has been freed from administered prices, but it has also been delicensed at an opportune time. Now the units which satisfy international norms in terms

of costs and quality can find new investment opportunities in India. Keen interest evinced by leading producers in Japan, erstwhile USSR and other leaders in the steel sector in the modernization process in India bears testimony to this. The latest phase of modernization coupled with the abundance of natural resources is sure to attract more capital in this sector and earn the country an internationally saleable name.

### Minister Briefs Parliament on Anti-AIDS Steps

*BK1507081492 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Text] The health and family welfare minister, Mr. M.L. Fotedar, has said that the government blood banks have been modernized to check the spread of AIDS. He told the Rajya Sabha during question-hour today that out of 608 blood banks, 138 have been fully equipped for observing the prescribed procedure. He said the center is seized of the situation and fully recognizes the dangerous potential of AIDS. The minister said several surveillance centers have been established in the country for regular screening of blood samples, particularly from high-risk individuals. Mr. Fotedar said a national AIDS control project estimated to cost 255 crore rupees is to be implemented during 1992-93 with the assistance of the World Bank.

## Iran

### Velayati Leaves 14 Jul for Visit to Germany

*LD1407145192 Tehran IRNA in English 1412 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Tehran for Bonn on the German Government's official invitation today.

The visit is in response to last year's visit to Iran of former German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher.

During his three-day stay, Velayati will meet with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, ministers of foreign affairs and economy as well as other high ranking officials.

He will discuss bilateral issues and international developements with German officials.

### Meets With Foreign Minister

*WA1507122292*

For German-source reportage on the visit to Germany by Foreign Minister Velayati, including his talks with Foreign Minister Kinkel, see the Germany section of the 15 July West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

### Commentary Says Rabin 'No Different' From Shamir

*LD1407124392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1008 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The new government of the Zionist regime received a vote of confidence from the parliament with a very small majority. [passage omitted]

The new Israeli Government is a coalition government. In the parliamentary elections of the Zionist regime at the beginning of the current month of Tir [Persian month of Tir started on 22 June], the Labor Party achieved 44 seats, and in order to form a government, it was forced to form a coalition with the Meretz and SHAS [Torah-Observing Sephardim] parties, which have contradictory ideologies. Because the government is a coalition government and some of the views and policies of the participating parties are contradictory, Yitzhaq Rabin will be forced to give in to the extortionist demands of this or that party in order to save his government. Nevertheless, it seems that the new government will enjoy greater stability on the domestic front than the previous government led by Shamir.

In view of the fact that the new government of the Zionist regime is the first government since the end of the cold war, some Arab analysts and politicians do not regard it as unlikely that Yitzhaq Rabin has become aware of international developments and that he may face realities better than his predecessor. But Labor Party policies have shown that the new government is not very different from the previous government. The new government, like the previous government, opposes withdrawing from the territories occupied in 1967; the formation of a Palestinian government; or stopping the construction of settlements; therefore, all Israeli leaders follow the same ideology and only differ in their manner of expressing their ideology.

One of the main priorities of the new government of the Zionist regime is ending the intifadah, which the government is trying to achieve either through peace talks or through greater suppression. Let us not forget that at the beginning of the intifadah, Yitzhaq Rabin was war minister [as heard] of the previous government and implemented the policy of the iron fist. This background has led some Palestinian leaders to say that Yitzhaq Rabin will implement the iron-fist policy in velvet gloves.

In the new government, Yitzhaq Rabin is both the prime minister and war minister and will directly supervise peace talks. In this way, he will try to personally supervise the declared policies of his party regarding the intifadah and peace talks. Meretz, one of the parties participating in the new coalition government, favors withdrawing from the occupied territories and even favors establishing a Palestinian government. On the other hand, the SHAS party—which is another participant in the coalition government and which is an

extremely hardline party—is strongly against such policies. In view of this contradiction, during the peace talks, Rabin can play a balancing act and implement his policies through these two wings of the coalition, which are opposed to one another.

The policies of the new government of the Zionist regime are based on pursuing separate peace talks and reaching separate peace agreements with Arab governments. The new government will also continue settlements under the pretext of safeguarding Israeli security. The only possibility is that there will be more talk about giving autonomy to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. But under no circumstances would that be regarded as regaining the rights of the Palestinian nation.

It is customary in the world that preelection talks and slogans are much sweeter than the realities of the period after being elected and forming a government. This rule also applies to the new government of the Zionist regime, and the future actions of Yitzhaq Rabin will prove that he is no different from his predecessor and that the hopes of some compromising wings have been nothing but a mirage.

### ANC's Mandela To Visit Iran 'Next Week'

*LD1207195592 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 12 jul 92*

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA—The leader of the African National Congress (ANC), Nelson Mandela, is to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran next week.

He announced his intention to visit Iran in a telephone conversation with Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati today.

Mandela also appreciated Iran's support for the rights of South Africa's black majority in international forums.

### Aid Totaling $10 Million Sent to Bosnia

*LD1007183492 Tehran IRNA in English 1411 GMT 10 Jul 92*

[Text] Zagreb, July 10, IRNA—Iran has delivered humanitarian aid worth 10 million dollars to the war-stricken people of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Secretary General of Iran's Red Crescent Society (IRCS) Mohammad Parham told IRNA here Friday.

Parham said that 300 tons of food and medicines were transported from Tehran to the Croatian capital by 15 trucks while 100 tons of more aid was sent aboard an Iranian Jumbo-747.

Iran also plans to send three more truckloads of medical aid along with nurses through Vienna, Austria, to Zagreb and from here to the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo.

Parham said that the objective of his humanitarian mission is "to express the solidarity of the Iranian Government and people to the Bosnian refugees."

He added that the truckloads of flour, vegetable oil, sugar and medical equipment, arrived here last Wednesday, will be delviered to the Bosnian 'Marhamat' (Charity) Organization.

The Iranian official regretted that the international community and the world are not adequately informed of the sufferings of the Bosnian people.

The IRCS official, accompanied by the Iranian senior Foreign Ministry officals, is to wind up his visit to Croatia today after inspecting the Bosnian refugee camps in Zagreb.

### Head of Bosnian Charity Praises Iran for Aid

*LD1107110992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] The Bosnian health and social affairs minister and the head of the Bosnian Marhamat charity organization praised Iran's humanitarian aid for the people of that republic.

Bashir Begovich, head of the Marhamat organization, told an Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting correspondent yesterday: The Iranian aid is especially important for the Bosnia-Hercegovina Muslims. Most of the foodstuffs the Western countries are sending to the Bosnians do not conform with the shari'ah law and therefore cannot be used by Muslims.

Iran's relief, including foodstuffs, medicine, and medical equipment, was transported to the Croatian capital, Zagreb, by 15 trucks and a 747 Jumbo jet and handed over to the Marhamat organization representatives on Wednesday.

### Envoy Meets With Bosnian President 11 Jul

*LD1207095292 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Zagreb, July 11, IRNA—The President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina Alija Izetbegovic on his way from Helsinki to Sarajevo met here with Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran Nasrollah Kamyab-Kazemi Saturday.

President Izetbegovic and the Iranian ambassador discussed the coordination of the humanitarian aid of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the peoples of Bosnia-Hercegovina, which is the purpose of the visit here by the Iranian ambassador.

Izetbegovic offered his warm greetings to the leader of the Islamic republic, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, and expressed his gratitude on behalf of the people and government of Bosnia-Hercegovina to the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the humanitarian aid.

President Izetbegovic stressed that Iran's humanitarian aid to the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina would influence the relationship between the two republics.

The ambassador also met Thursday with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Dr franjo Gregoric. The two discussed extending and improving mutual political, economic, and cultural relations.

The Croatian prime minister said he would like the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to open in Zagreb as soon as possible so that political and economic ties between the two republics could be strengthened and improved.

Kamyab thanked the Government of Croatia on its political support of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Government, as well as on the welcome of the refugees from B-H [Bosnia-Hercegovina].

The Croatian prime minister repeated his political standpoint, that includes the Croatian Governments' recognition of the sovereignty and independence of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, and emphasized his support for the republic.

### Bilateral Trade With Malaysia To Increase

*LD1207091392 Tehran IRNA in English 1204 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 11, IRNA—In the just-concluded third Iran-Malaysia Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Saturday, both sides reviewed the state of bilateral trade and expressed their willingness to increase its volume.

The Iranian side pointed to the existing imbalance of trade in favour of Malaysia and both sides agreed that the imbalance be redressed in the context of overall expansion and diversification of trade.

The two-day JCM, established three working committees to discuss the following areas of interest in detail:

—Trade, banking and finance
—Industry, mining, agriculture, investment, electronics and telecommunications
—culture, tourism, education and science

Iranian Vice-President Masud Roghani Zanjani and Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, were co-chairmen of the JCM.

In his speech after signing the JCM's "Agreed Minute", Zanjani said this joint commission emphasised more on the specific areas of cooperation while the previous two meetings concentrated more on the general terms.

He said Iran had identified several areas to promote bilateral trade and to correct the imbalance of trade.

Discussions on subjects of mutual interest were held in a cordial atmosphere, marked by the spirit of Islamic solidarity and brotherhood, he said.

Zanjani called on private sectors to play a more pivotal role in transforming the character of economic and trade relations between the two countries.

He expressed confidence that the agreement reached here could be translated into action before the next meeting of the commission in Tehran next year to pave the way for enhanced cooperation in various fields.

Zanjani said with the latest developmemts of the world today, Islamic countries should utilise the maximum existing capacities of their economies among themselves.

He said since the Islamic revolution, Iran has stressed the importance of developing relations with the Islamic and the Third World countries.

He added that the strategic location of the two countries, with Iran close to the newly independent states in Central Asia and Malaysia as a gate-way for the South East Asian region, could pave the way for greater cooperation and diversifying the trade. He said Iran was willing to serve as a gate-way for Malaysia to conduct trade with the region.

Last year's bilateral trade, which totalled 61.28 million dollars, represented a 33 percent drop from the 91.15 million recorded in 1990.

Hussein Mahru, deputy head of the Budget and Planning Organization led the Iranian delegation while Foreign Ministry's Secretary-General I. Halim Ali, led the Malaysian delegation in the meeting.

Badawi in reply said Malaysia appreciates the offer by Iran to act as a gate-way for Malaysia into the Central Asian republics.

He said Malaysia could use port facilities in Iran to trade with countries in Central Asia as most of these countries were landlocked and had no port facilities.

Malaysia requested Iran to consider using Malaysia as a distribution centre for its products in the South East Asian region, Badawi said.

He pointed out that the meeting had managed "to focus on those issues that are of vital importance to us particularly in the realm of trade, investments, and culture," adding "it provides a firm basis for enhancement of collaboration in the future."

He said the personal friendships that had been developed and forged at the JCM would be useful in the future deliberations and dealings together.

"This will surely add a new dimension to our bilateral ties," he said.

On iran's invitation for Malaysia to participate in its first international fisheries exhibition, to be held in Tehran from 22-27 May 1993, Abdullah said Malaysia welcomed the invitation and expressed its willingness to assist Iran in the dissemination of information on the exhibition.

The following are the highlights of the decisions adopted at the Iran-Malaysia third JCM in Kuala Lumpur:

—The recognition that bilateral trade had declined and the commitment reached to revitalize, intensify and diversify trade through greater promotional efforts, regular exchanges of information on each other's trade opportunities and visits by members of the public and the private sectors.

—possible establishment of joint investments in such areas as resource-based and high technology industries, supporting industries and agro-based sector in Malaysia and electronics, decorative stones, automotive parts and palm oil industry in Iran,

—agreement to promote culture and tourism through exchange of cultural researchers, performing troupes and artifacts and cultural information,

—agreement on exchange of experts in the field of agriculture, veterinary, fisheries and training of each country's officials.

In order to increase the volume of trade between the two countries, both sides agreed to take the following measures:

—Participation in trade fairs held in each other's country

—Exhange trade missions

—Encouragement of private sectors of both countries to increase their contacts through exchange of visits and information.

—Exchange list of new products available for export to either side on regular basis.

—Improvement of shipping and banking services.

—Removal of impediments affecting bilateral trade.

And finally both sides expressed their willingness to organise a "Malaysia Week"/"Iran Week" in their respective capitals with a view to promoting tourism.

Zanjani, who leads a 23-member Iranian delegation which includes eight corporate leaders for a five-day visit to Kuala Lumpur and as a co-chairman of the Iran-Malaysia JCM will leave for Tehran later today.

### Bilateral Cooperation Agreement Signed With India

*LD1007184392 Tehran IRNA in English 1356 GMT 10 Jul 92*

[Text] Tehran, July 10, IRNA—Iran and India signed an agreement here Friday on bilateral political, economic, trade, cultural and consular ties as well as on regional and international cooperation.

The agreement was inked by Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati and Indian Foreign Secretary Jyotindranath Dixit prior to the latter's departure at Tehran Mehrabad Airport.

Speaking to reporters at the airport, Dixit expressed hope that the exchange of visits between the senior officials of India and Iran would help further promote and expand Tehran-New Delhi relations.

Dixit arrived here at the head of a high-ranking political delegation last Tuesday [7 Jul].

While here, the Indian official met with President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and submitted a message by the Indian prime minster.

### Bilateral Mining Agreement Signed With Guinea

*LD1207211492 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Mines and Metals Minister Mahlujhi, on his return to Tehran from Conakry, Guinea, announced that he signed a bilateral agreement with his Guinean counterpart for extracting bauxite in Guinea. The mines and metals minister added: During my visit, a joint economic commission was also formed to assess both countries' potential for increasing bilateral ties.

### Iraqi Motorized Units Prevent 'Ashura Ceremonies

*NC1207172892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] The Voice of Rebellious Iraq said today that Iraqi motorized units surrounded the holy shrines in al-Najaf and Karbala' and prevented ceremonies to mark the anniversary of the death of Imam Husayn ['Ashura].

Reports from Iraq indicate that Iraqi authorities adopted stringent security measures at the onset of the month of Muharram [beginning 2 July]. Machine guns were set up on top of mosques.

### Shrines 'Empty of Pilgrims'

*LD1207150492 Tehran IRNA in English 1224 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Ahvaz (Khuzestan), July 12, IRNA—The holy shrines in Iraq remained empty of pilgrims as the world mourned the tragic martyrdom anniversary of the the master of martyrs, Imam Hussein (PBUH) [peace be upon him].

According to reports from Iraq, security forces kept away mourners yesterday and the day before from the shrines of the prophet's (PBUH) son-in-law Imam 'Ali (PBUH) in Najaf, as well as the shrines of the latter's two sons Imam Hussein (PBUH) and Abul Fazl al-Abbas (PBUH) in Karbala where the tragedy occured on the 10th of Moharrum [July] in the year 61 A.H. (680 A.C.).

The Ba'athist regime also prevented mourners from assembling in husseiniyas and mosques around the country including Kadhemein, near Baghdad, where the 7th and 9th infallible imams of the prophet's (PBUH) household lie in rest, Samarra to the north, where the 10th and 11th imams are in repose.

In contrast to the reality, said the sources, Iraqi T.V. put on an Islamic mask for the occasion, screening footages of some old movies and slides of the holy shrines, and claiming that mourners were allowed to pay their tributes to the martyrs of Karbala.

As part of its propaganda drive, the T.V. broadcast interviews from the governors of Karbala and Najaf in this regard.

Najaf and Karbala were at the centre of the popular uprising which swept Iraq in March 1991, and which, as a mute world watched, was bloodily put down with hundreds of thousands of civilians massacred and the holy shrines suffering desecration and destruction at the hands of the republican guards.

### Non-Oil Exports Increase by 16 Percent

*LD1207151392 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 12 Jul 92*

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA—Non-oil exports during the first quarter of the current calendar year (March 21-June 20) fetched the country 531 million dollars (37 billion rls), reported the Customs Department Sunday.

It said the figure showed an increase of 16 percent compared to the corresponding period last year. In terms of weight, it added, the 559,000 tons consignment was up by 18 percent.

Hand-woven carpets topped the export list, earning the country 13 bn rls, followed by 22,000 tons of pistachio whose share was 5 bn rls and 660 tons of raisin valued at 1 bn rls. The figures, however, were down by 6, 4 and 5 percent respectively compared to the same period last year, said the report.

In contrast to Iran's traditional exports, other items showed a noteworthy rise indicating that the Government's policy of encouraging and diversifying exports is paying dividends.

Various kinds of copper and aluminium containers worth 1.15 bn rls showed a considerable increase, while leather shoes valued at rls 451 million and construction stones worth rls 24 million registered a record rise of 59 and 139 percent respectively.

The 2,000 ton construction stone consignment was an increase of 108 percent compared to the first quarter of last year.

### British Official's Canceled Visit Questioned

*NC1007113992 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 30 Jun 92 p 2*

[Editorial: "Instability in British Foreign Decision Makings"]

[Text] The British Foreign Office has cancelled the visit to Iran by David Gore-Booth, its second secretary for Middle Eastern affairs, slated for last Friday. This visit was to take place in response to a visit made early May by Hamid Asifi, director general for Europe and America affairs at Iran's Foreign Ministry.

As to the causes for this cancellation, a British Foreign Office spokesman told the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) that this visit was cancelled for various reasons, one of which was Britain's imminent chairmanship of the European Common Market.

On the sidelines of this news, the daily INDEPENDENT on Thursday quoted a British diplomat, whose name was not as usual mentioned, as saying that Iran did not fill the bill satisfactorily in several instances, including in Iran's alleged interference in the assassination of Shapur Bakhtiar, Iran's alleged obstruction of third parties from gaining access to the Abu-Musa Island which is under the joint control and supervision of Iran and the United Arab Emirates, and Iran's alleged collusion in a bomb explosion in Israel's Embassy in Buenos Aires. Worthy of note is that the British official in Tehran wanted to discuss with the Iranian officials Iran's stance with regard to Salman Rushdie.

Political instability in Britain's foreign decision makings is now common. Perhaps the best instance of this instability can be traced in the contradictory statements issued by the British officials with regard to the unity of Europe. This instability in foreign decision making is without intermission and so the decisions adopted are without justification as they are made on the spur of the moment. As a result, the British spokesmen and diplomats also face difficulties.

If a glance is cast at the reasons set forth by the recognized spokesman and the unidentified diplomat for the cancellation of the British official's visit to Iran, we will find that the British Foreign Office seems to be in want of a calendar. Didn't the British government know in advance the date in which it would assume the chairmanship of the European Common Market? So why had the British Foreign Office fixed a definite date with the Iranian Foreign Ministry for the said official's visit to Iran?

The false accusations made against Iran by the unidentified diplomat and printed in the INDEPENDENT which is affiliated to the British Foreign Office took place prior to Britain's official invitation to Hamid Asifi.

By all means, the visit took place before a date was fixed for David Gore-Booth's visit to Iran. Indeed, can no calendar be found in the British Foreign Office or was the cancellation due to the British officials' realization of the unchanging Iranian stance with regard to Salman Rushdie; thus preferring to call off the visit than to have a defeated and fruitless one?

### Report Views Tajik Newspapers, Periodicals

*NC1107140592 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 6 Jul 92 pp 3, 11*

[Report by Sajjad Mohammadi: "On That Day, At That Place"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Tajik newspaper "JOMHURIYET" has only four pages dealing with economic, political, cultural, and social topics, according to its editor in chief. He mentioned that the newspaper prints verses written by his eminence the imam (may God be pleased with him), noting: Our readers were amazed that such a leader could also write poems.

During an hour-long meeting with JOMHURIYET's editor, we learned the following:

1. The newspaper used to receive much of its material from TASS, but no longer subscribes to any news agency because it lacks the funds! It is forced to rely on radio newscasts for material.

2. The newspaper has correspondents across Tajikistan. When it published the slogan "Death to America," the U.S. ambassador went to the newspaper's office and asked the staff: "Instead of printing such slogans, why not write about our friendship with Muslims and the Saudi Government?"

4. [number as printed] In addition to the Tajik-language JOMHURIYET, there are other newspapers and periodicals published in Tajikistan:

A. The Tajik-language "SEDA-YE MARDOM" [VOICE OF THE PEOPLE], which represents the views of the parliament.

B. The newspapers "PAYAM-E DUSHANBE" [MESSAGE OF DUSHANBE] and "JAVANAN-E TAJIKISTAN" [TAJIKISTAN'S YOUTH], also in Tajik, are considered the people's newspapers because they are not affiliated with the government.

C. There are also weekly publications printed in Cyrillic script, such as "CHERAGH-E RUZ" [THE LIGHT OF THE DAY], "ADABIYAT VA SAN'AT" [LITERATURE AND INDUSTRY], "SAAMAN" [WELFARE, or ORDERLINESS], and "TAJIKISTAN."

D. Various groups and factions in Tajikistan have periodicals that serve as their mouthpieces, such as: "NEJAT" [SALVATION], the mouthpiece of the Islamic Movement Party; the weekly "MENBAR-E ESLAM" [THE PULPIT OF ISLAM], published by the Tajik Judicial Department; the weekly 'ADALAT [JUSTICE], affiliated with the Democratic Party; and "NEDA-YE RANJBAR" [CALL OF THE TOILERS], the "organ of the Communist Party."

E. Among the magazines published in Tajikistan are: "MAJALLEH-YE PEYVAND" [THE BOND MAGAZINE], printed in Farsi script; the Uzbek magazine "GOLESTAN" [GARDEN]; and magazines in Tajik, including "MAJALLAT-E TAJIKISTAN" [TAJIKISTAN MAGAZINE], "FARHANG" [CULTURE], and "SEDA-YE SHARQ" [VOICE OF THE EAST]. "PAMIR" [name of a mountainous region in Tajikistan] is published in Roman script.

The editor in chief of JOMHURIYET reminded me that someone in our Foreign Ministry promised to provide computerized typesetting equipment in Farsi script. He added that as soon as the equipment is received, the newspaper will immediately begin publishing in Farsi script. He made us promise to remind our dear brother in the Foreign Ministry. We are extremely hopeful that the JOMHURIYET staff will soon receive the typesetting equipment, and Tajikistan will have newspapers printed in Farsi.

### * Ministries Announce New Appointments

*92AS1168J Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 17 Jun 92 p 22*

[Text] On the recommendation of the minister of the interior and with the approval of the Council of Ministers, Ahmad Khorram was appointed governor-general of Hamedan, 'Ali Naqi-Jahromi was appointed governor-general of Fars, Jalil Seyyedzadeh was appointed governor-general of Hormozegan, and Eshaq Jahangiri was appointed governor-general of Esfahan.

On the recommendation of Dr. Velayati and with the approval of Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the republic, Mohammad Beheshti-Monfard was appointed Iran's ambassador to Ethiopia.

### Opposition Prepares for 'Final, Decisive Blow'

*JN1107192192 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Jul 92*

[Text] Recent developments in Iran proved that toppling the dictatorship and bringing about peace and democracy are the only solution to Iran's problems and the crises from which it is suffering. This came in a memorandum issued in Paris yesterday by the Iranian opposition organization, Mojahedin-e Khalq, on the anniversary of the death of the master of martyrs, al-Husayn, [son of Caliph 'Ali Bin-Abi-Talib].

The memorandum reads that the Iranian National Liberation Army is preparing all its power to deal a final and decisive blow to the corrupt regime in Tehran. It also explains that the regime's officials admit that Iran is at the brink of bankruptcy and that more than 80 percent of the Iranian people are below the poverty line. It also points out that protests and demonstrations that have occurred in many parts of Iran over the past several months are the beginning of efforts to overthrow the ruling regime in Tehran.

### Shah's Younger Brother Dies in Prison

*NC1407150192 Paris AFP in English 1403 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Tehran, July 14 (AFP)—The younger brother of the late Shah of Iran died here of a heart attack in hospital on Sunday after 13 years in jail, the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper reported Tuesday.

Hamid Reza Pahlavi was the last member of the imperial family still in Iran.

The Shah and his family fled into exile after he was toppled in 1979 by fundamentalist clergymen led by Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The shah's younger brother was being detained in Tehran's Evin prison here on drugs charges. The government never said if he was put on trial.

## Pakistan

### Peshawar Violence Causes Death, Property Loss

#### Seven Reported Killed

*BK1307154792 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jul 92*

[Text] The district magistrate of Peshawar issued a press note this afternoon saying that a Muharram mourning procession was fired at near Kohati Road yesterday afternoon after which two sides traded fire. Seven persons were killed and 18 people, including three law enforcement agency personnel, were injured in the incident; 10 injured were discharged from the hospital after receiving first aid. The press note added that some miscreants later damaged the office of the rival group at Kohati Road. The law enforcement agencies used tear gas and resorted to a light baton charge and fired in the air to prevent further loss of life and property. The central corps and armed police forces were called in and 35 people were arrested on the spot. The situation is now under control.

#### Communal Clashes Described

*BK1407161592 Hong Kong AFP in English 1545 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, July 14 (AFP)—The government Tuesday handed this city over to the army as the death toll from three days of the worst-ever communal violence here rose to 12, officials and hospital sources said.

Officials said by that by nightfall Peshawar was limping back to normality and residents heaved a sigh of relief with the arrival of the army, after police and paramilitary forces failed to quell the rioting.

Army units have taken up position in sensitive districts of Peshawar, which borders Afghanistan and where the local Pathan population is widely armed.

Troops in armoured personnel carriers started patrolling the areas affected by the day-long shooting and arson.

Eight people had died on Sunday when clashes erupted during Shiite processions marking the death of the seventh century Moslem saint Imam Hussain, grandson of the Prophet Mohammed.

Disturbances continued Monday and hospital sources said four more people died Tuesday as militants belonging to rival Shiite and Sunni Moslem sects traded gunfire.

The countrywide death toll in the communal clashes has now reached 14. Two people have been killed in other towns.

Observers said the clashes were not only unprecedented in this northwestern Pakistani city, where business and family ties link many members of both communities, but also the first of this magnitude in the Islamic world during this year's Moslem holy month of Moharram.

A strike called by the religious parties earlier paralysed the city as shops and markets remained closed, traffic stayed off the roads and protests and strikes spread to at least two nearby towns.

Rampaging crowds had earlier torched at least eight cinemas, which they consider un-Islamic, and damaged vehicles, shops and restaurants. Sunni militants attacked some Shiite mosques, resulting in gunfire from the Shiites which caused a number of the latest casualties, sources here said.

Gun-toting soldiers in battle gear were moving in convoys of up to 10 vehicles, and military trucks were equipped with heavy machine guns.

Earlier, an official had announced that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif had rushed to the city, but officials said later he had been forced to cancel the trip "due to bad weather."

The prime minister called on both Sunnis and Shiites to exercise the "utmost patience."

Officials here, saying they suspected the involvement of Indian agents in the sectarian riots, quoted Sharif as saying in Islamabad that elements inimical to peace in Pakistan wanted "disruption."

Hussain is revered by both sects, although they differ on religious rites, and clashes usually take place over the routes of Shiite processions because the country's Sunni majority opposes their public mourning.

Sunnis claimed the trouble started when some people in a Shiite procession entered their mosque Sunday and desecrated the Koran, the holiest Islamic book.

The mosque was adjacent to the office of the extremest Sunni organisation Anjuman-Sipah-i-Sahaba Pakistan (ASSP), which has called for Shiites to be declared non-believers in Islam because of what Sunnis consider their disrespect for some of Mohammed's companions.

Shiites, for their part, claimed ASSP activists opened fire from the mosque, causing Shiite casaulties and forcing them to retaliate.

Tuesday, thousands of Sunnis took to the streets to protest the incident, despite an overnight ban on gatherings of more than five persons. Witnesses said it was ignored, but that police did not intervene against an estimated 5,000 marchers until they began heading toward a Shiite mosque.

People from surrounding villages also joined the marchers and freelance groups continued to roam the city, where rumours continued to fuel sectarian suspicions.

A large meeting was held in the evening, at which religious leaders called for calm.

### Report on Mosque Denied

*BK1407142492 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] In Peshawar, an official spokesman has contradicted a news item carried by BBC alleging that a mosque has been burnt during Sunday [12 July] riots in Peshawar. The spokesman termed this news item as totally baseless, concocted, and mischievous. He said the mosque is intact and this fact can be ascertained by the visitors themselves.

### Sharif Chairs Meeting on Situation

*BK1407164092 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] A high-level meeting held under the chairmanship of the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, in Peshawar tonight assessed the situation following the tragic incident in Peshawar on Sunday [12 July] last. The prime minister was briefed about the situation and measures taken by the provincial government for bringing the situation under control.

Addressing the meeting, the prime minister expressed satisfaction over the steps taken by the provincial government in this respect. He called on the people to maintain unity in their ranks and foil attempts of the vested interests sowing the seed of disunity and discord. He appealed to the leaders of both the sects to show restraint, accommodation, and talk to each other in the larger interests of the nation. He expressed his full belief that ulema, leaders of public opinion, and elected representatives would respond to his appeal and would contribute positively toward maintenance of peace.

Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif directed the provincial government to take all necessary steps against those elements taking law in their hands and causing damages to the life and property of innocent and law-abiding citizens. The meeting was attended among others by the provincial Governor Mr. Amir Gulistan Janjua; the Chief Minister Mir Afzal Khan; Federal Minister for Coordination Mr. Aslam Khan Khattak; and senior officials of the provincial government.

### Sindh Chief Against Opposition Urging House Session

*BK1407151892 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Sindh Assembly session, which was requisitioned by PDA [People's Democratic Alliance], was today adjourned till 0930 tomorrow by the deputy speaker, Mr. Ata Mohammad Murree. The opposition had requisitioned the assembly session to discuss the position of the speaker after submission of resignation by him and also the resignation submitted by MQM MPAs [Muhajir Qaumi Movement members of provincial assembly]. Earlier, the deputy speaker appointed a panel of chairmen which consist of Mr. Mir Mohammad Wassan, Mr. Hoshin Barucha, Syed Didar Hussain Shah, and Mr. Ahmad Salim Siddiqui. Four MQM members, Mr. Abid Sharif, Mr. Ahmad Salim Siddiqui, Mr. Ershad Ahmad, and Mr. Mohammad Salim also attended the session.

Later, addressing a news conference in his chamber, the Sindh chief minister, Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah, said the PDA in today's session had raised a nonissue whose course of action has not yet accrued. [sentence as heard] Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah pointed out that the resignations of the speaker and other MQM MPAs have not yet been accepted and the opposition was doing its mathematics on mere reports. He said if any member of the house made a request to provide security, the speaker of the house had the power to do so. He said by-elections for those seats would be held immediately if reports about the alleged resignation by such members of the house were confirmed. Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah said our doors are open and we are ready to cooperate with the opposition.

### Nuclear Official Views Transfer of PRC Technology

*BK1407120592 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Jul 92 p 2*

[Text] Islamabad, July 13—China is going ahead with its nuclear power programme at a great speed and will have 2100 mw installed nuclear capacity in operation by 1994.

This was stated by the former chairman of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission [PAEC], Munir Ahmad Khan, who has recently returned from an extensive unofficial trip to China during which he visited the 300 mw Qinshan Power Plant and the nuclear power plants at Daya Ba.

He said the Qinshan nuclear power plant which had already achieved 75 per cent of rated power, was expected to reach full power by next month. The plant has undergone very rigorous commissioning tests and no difficulty in its safe operation is likely to be experienced. Pakistan has signed a contract for a 300 mw Qinshan type nuclear power plant to be built at Chashma.

The former PAEC chief hoped that further improvements both in terms of safety and technology, based on the experience gained by China with the Qinshan plant, will be incorporated in Chashma plant. It may be noted, he added, that [words indistinct] the services of experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency to review the safety of this power reactor so that it complies with the latest IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] guidelines.

Tha Daya Ba power station, located approximately 50 km to Hong Kong, has two nuclear power plants of 900 mw each. Of these the first plant is expected to be in operation by 1993 and the second by 1994.

Munir Ahmad believed that China would make sure that none of its power plants had any design or operational safety problems which were experienced in the nuclear power plants of erstwhile USSR.

After completion of these three power plants, China will proceed with construction of its newly designed 600 mw nuclear power reactors for its future use, he said.

## Uzbek Delegation Continues Cooperation Visit

### Discusses Road Links

*BK1507062292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] Discussions were held on developing road links between Pakistan and Central Asian Muslim states during a meeting between officials of the Communications Ministry and the visiting high-ranking Uzbek delegation in Islamabad yesterday. It was disclosed at the meeting that preliminary work on developing traditional routes as a joint Pakistan-Afghanistan-Uzbekistan project will soon begin.

Mohammad Azam Khan Hoti, minister of state for communications, told the meeting participants that Pakistan and Uzbekistan could revive traditional and historical routes and Uzbekistan could be provided facilities at Karachi and Gwadar ports. The National Highway Authority chairman told the delegation that the Pakistan motorway, on which work has already started, will be extented up to Towr Kham in Afghanistan to provide further links with the Central Asian Muslim states.

The chairman of Pakistan Telecommunications said that his organization is willing to provide technical assistance for manufacturing telecommunications equipment and setting up training facilities.

(Rustam Yunisov), leader of Uzbek delegation, said that his government wants to benefit from Pakistan's rich experience, particularly in the fields of communications, water, and energy.

### Meets Finance Minister

*BK1407151092 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92*

[Text] The Uzbek delegation led by the minister for highways, Mr. (Rustam Yunisov), had detailed discussions with the federal minister for finance and economic affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, for enhancing cooperation in the economic, trade, and communication fields.

The finance minister proposed the formation of a transport coordination committee to formulate measures for linking Pakistan and Uzbekistan via Afghanistan through road and railway. Possibilities of starting trade between the two countries through the existing roads were considered in the meeting.

He offered cooperation to Uzbekistan in the banking sector. He said it had been agreed in principle that the national bank would open its branch in Uzbekistan.

The leader of the Uzbek delegation expressed his happiness over development of friendly relations between the two countries in such a short span of period. He said both countries should take steps for improving their trade and political relations.